

HOT STREAK

**US stocks surge to
new record highs!**

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Trader Gregory Rowe wears a "Dow 15,000" hat as he works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Friday, May 3, 2013. The stock market surged, traders donned party hats, and the wave of buying drove three indexes through major milestones.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

Obama: US, Latin America must strengthen economies

JULIE PACE

AP White House Correspondent

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)

— Eager to move the conversation beyond drugs and violence, President Barack Obama met with Central American leaders Friday and declared that building stronger economies and greater trade ties will allow nations of the region to offer their residents a better way of life and reduce incentives to support narco-trafficking.

"We have to make sure that everybody feels opportunity," the president declared in a joint news conference with Costa Rican President Laura Chinchilla. "Even in countries that are doing well, the scourge of drugs and drug-trafficking will still be there.

And there still needs to be a strong law enforcement component. But we can do better than we are currently doing."

The president had sounded a similar message earlier Friday in Mexico, where he cast the nation as ready to take "its rightful place in the world" and move past the drug battles and violence that have defined its relationship with the United States.

The president's three-day visit to Mexico and Costa Rica is his first to Latin America since winning a second presidential term in an election in which he gained the support of Hispanic Americans by a large margin. His trip is being followed with great interest by Hispanics in the U.S. as well as in Mexico,

Central America and farther to the south.

In both countries, the president said his talks with leaders focused on how to strengthen the regional economy and build trade ties, adding that the stronger that local economies are and the more opportunities that people have, "the less powerful these narco-trafficking operations are going to be."

The president also spoke hopefully of prospects for immigration reform that he said would be a boon on both sides of the border.

Obama arrived in the capital of San Jose on a rainy afternoon but received a warm welcome from thousands of Costa Ricans who lined the road near the airport. Some waved American flags. Others held

homemade signs, including one that said "Fired Up!" — a reference to his campaign slogan — in a much more demonstrative welcome than he had received in Mexico.

After meeting with Chinchilla, the president was meeting with leaders of regional Central American Integration system, chaired by the Costa Rican president. The network also includes Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama.

Central American leaders see drug consumption in the U.S. as a driving factor in their security issues, and many of them want the U.S. to take more responsibility in the fight against drug cartels.

Obama acknowledged the role of U.S. demand for

drugs, and his administration has spent \$30 billion to reduce demand in recent years. But he acknowledged the U.S. is a "big market" and that "progress is sometimes slower than we'd like it to be."

Obama will speak to business leaders in Costa Rica on Saturday before returning to Washington.

In Mexico, the president tried to set a new course for ties between the U.S. and its southern neighbor, eagerly promoting Mexico's improving economy and its democracy.

"A new Mexico is emerging," Obama told a crowd of young people during a speech at Mexico City's grand National Museum of Anthropology. "Mexico is also taking its rightful place in the world, on the world stage. Mexico is standing up for democracy not just here in Mexico but throughout the hemisphere. Mexico's sharing expertise with neighbors across the Americas. When they face earthquakes or threats to their citizens or go to the polls to cast their votes, Mexico is there helping its neighbors."

Despite Obama's rosy portrayal, Mexico's high poverty rates have barely budged in recent years. Its economy grew by only about a 1 percent rate in the first three months of 2013 and is not creating anywhere near the 1 million jobs annually it needs to employ young Mexicans entering the workforce. Without jobs or opportunities to study, many young people have become easier prey for recruitment by drug cartels.

The president conceded his own country's role in the troubles that have plagued Mexico, acknowledging that most guns used to commit crime in the country come from north of the border.

A key cause for Mexico's violence is the demand for illegal drugs in the U.S., Obama said, though he reiterated his opposition to legalization of such drugs, which some Latin American leaders have called for. □



President Barack Obama and Costa Rica President Laura Chinchilla attend a cultural event with youth performing at the Casa Amarilla in San Jose, Costa Rica, Friday, May 3, 2013.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

Boston bomb suspect died of gunshots, blunt trauma

BOB SALSBERG

BRIDGET MURPHY

Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — A death certificate says a suspect in the Boston Marathon bombings died from gunshot wounds and blunt trauma to his head and

torso. Worcester funeral home owner Peter Stefan has 26-year-old Tamerlan Tsarnaev's body and read details from his death certificate Friday. Tsarnaev died after a gunfight with authorities. Police have said he ran out of ammu-

nition before his brother dragged his body under a vehicle while fleeing the scene. Younger brother Dzhokhar Tsarnaev faces a charge of using a weapon of mass destruction to kill. The April 15 bombing near the marathon's finish line

killed three people and injured more than 260 others. Authorities say the Tsarnaev brothers later killed a Massachusetts Institute of Technology campus police officer. Their mother says the allegations are lies. □

World Press Freedom Day: Authors say protests help

PETER SPIELMANN

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Exiled Chinese author Yu Jie joined other writers including Salman Rushdie on the 20th observance of World Press Freedom Day in appealing to China to live up to its own constitution and laws guaranteeing freedom of expression, and calling on the public to put pressure on governments that crack down on writers. Yu and other writers and activists were on a PEN International panel Friday highlighting a report on trends of the last five years in China's crackdown on free expression. It also marked the 20th anniversary of the U.N. General Assembly's designation of May 3 as World Press Freedom Day.

Other writers who signed onto the appeal included Mario Vargas Llosa, J.M. Coetzee, Marjane Satrapi, Wole Soyinka, Nadine Gordimer, Andrei Bitov and Tomas Tranströmer.

Yu came to the U.S. in January after receiving asylum. He was detained several times in China last year and said he was beaten so badly that he passed out. He has said he thinks Chinese authorities will not allow him back because he has accused them of torture. "The Chinese Communist Party's secret police hooded me and kidnapped me," said Yu, who wrote a critical biography of Prime Minister Wen Jiabao, titled "China's Best Actor." "And they bent back my fingers one by one and said that as my fingers typed 10 million characters in articles on the computer opposing the Chinese Communist Party, all 10 of my fingers should be broken. They said that they only needed to make a phone call to their senior, and then they could dig a hole and bury me alive in half an hour," he said Friday.

"In numerous nightmares, I have dreamed of the torture I experienced. That is China," Yu said.

Calls to China's U.N. Mis-

sion seeking comment Friday were not returned. In January 2012, when Yu left China, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Weimin said he was unaware of Yu and reports of his departure.

"These regimes do not like being highlighted," Rushdie said. He said that when PEN focuses on a writer who has been imprisoned, 90 percent of them are freed within six months. Is the effort worth it? "The people in trouble think this is important," Rushdie said, adding that he knew this from his own ordeal.

Rushdie, whose 1988 novel "The Satanic Verses" offended Muslims worldwide with its satirical portray of their prophet. Rushdie had to move to the United States and live under guard for years due to death threats over the book, including a 1989 fatwa issued by Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The most prominent among those imprisoned in China is Liu Xiaobo, the literary critic, writer, professor, and activist who received the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize, and a close friend of Yu.

Other observations of World Press Freedom Day included:

—The Committee to Protect Journalists, based in New York, tallied 17 journalists killed worldwide so far this year, and 232 imprisoned.

—The France-based Reporters Without Borders group named 39 "Predators of Freedom of Information" worldwide — presidents, politicians, religious leaders, militias and criminal organizations that the group says censor, imprison, kidnap, torture and kill journalists and other news providers. Reporters without Borders said it had added five new "predators" to the list: new Chinese President Xi Jinping, the Syrian Jihadi group Jabhat Al-Nusra, members and supporters of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood, Pakistan's Baloch armed groups, and Maldives' religious extremists. □

California:

New evacuation ordered in wildfire

RAQUEL DILLON

Associated Press

CAMARILLO, California

(AP) — A huge Southern California wildfire burned through coastal wilderness to the beach on Friday then stormed back through canyons toward inland neighborhoods when winds reversed direction. The wind shift forced

fire commanders to order a new evacuation of homes in a neighborhood along a stretch of road overlooking smoke-filled coastal canyons. Fears arose after gusty Santa Ana winds from the northeast faded and ocean breezes from the southwest pushed inland.

The "worst-case weather

scenario" sent flames ripping through fresh fuel just to the east of where the blaze charred wildlands a day earlier, said Ventura County fire spokesman Bill Nash. "In the perfect scenario we'd just hope for the wind to go away but what happened is the wind just turned around," Nash said. □



A firefighter battles the wildfire near the farmland along a hillside in Point Mugu, Calif. Friday, May 3, 2013. A huge wildfire carved a path to the sea and burned on the beach Friday, but firefighters got a break as gusty winds turned into breezes.

(AP Photo/Ringo H.W. Chiu)

Jodi Arias murder trial in jury's hands

By BRIAN SKOLOFF

Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Jurors began deliberations in Jodi Arias' murder trial on Friday after four months of testimony and closing arguments from both sides that presented far different scenarios of the killing and motivation, leaving the panel to come to grips with the dearth of evidence and Arias' ever-changing version of events.

The panel deliberated for just about an hour Friday before concluding for the day. Deliberations resume Monday. Closing arguments wrapped up with Arias' lawyer imploring jurors to take an impartial view of his client, even if they don't like her, and prosecutors

describing the defendant as a manipulative liar who meticulously planned the attack and is still lying.

"It's not about whether or not you like Jodi Arias. Nine days out of 10, I don't like Jodi Arias. ... But that doesn't matter," defense attorney Kirk Nurmi told jurors. Arias smiled as he made the remark, then returned to an unemotional gaze.

Arias says she killed her one-time boyfriend Travis Alexander in self-defense, but prosecutors say it was an act of premeditated first-degree murder that could carry a death sentence or life in prison.

The eight men and four women on the jury have the option of finding Arias guilty of second-degree

murder, too, if they don't believe she planned the attack but think it occurred in the heat of the moment. If convicted on that charge, she could face up to 25 years in prison. A manslaughter conviction carries a sentence of seven to 21 years.

Nurmi told jurors the entire case was about "fear, love, sex, lies and dirty little secrets" and repeated over and over that the prosecution's theory of a planned attack "doesn't make any sense."

The trial has become a tabloid and cable TV sensation and has attracted spectators from around the country who line up as early as 2 a.m. for a chance to score a few open seats in the courtroom. □

NRA official: 'Culture war' more than gun rights

JIM VERTUNO
JUAN LOZANO
Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — The powerful National Rifle Association gun lobby kicked off its annual convention Friday with a warning from its incoming president that its members are engaged in a "culture war" that stretches beyond gun rights, further ramping up emotions surrounding America's gun control debate.

NRA First Vice President James Porter, who will take over the top job Monday, issued a full-throated challenge in the opening hours to President Barack Obama after the NRA's major victory on gun control and a call to dig in for a long fight that will stretch into the 2014 elections.

More than 70,000 NRA members are expected to attend the three-day convention amid the backdrop of the defeat of a major bipartisan gun con-

trol bill in the U.S. Senate that was introduced after December's mass shooting at a Newtown, Connecticut, elementary school.

Polls show that most Americans favor expanding background checks, a main provision in the failed bill. Gun control supporters promise to keep pressing the issue.

Porter's remarks came in a short speech to about 300 people at a grass-roots organizing meeting and set the tone for a "Stand and Fight"-themed convention that is part gun trade show, political rally and strategy meeting.

"This is not a battle about gun rights," Porter said, calling it "a culture war."

"(You) here in this room are the fighters for freedom. We are the protectors," said Porter, whose father was NRA president from 1959-1960.

On Friday afternoon, a political forum will feature

speeches from several state and national conservative leaders, including Texas Gov. Rick Perry, former Republican vice presidential nominee Sarah

since being elected last year.

Wayne LaPierre, the NRA's brash, no-compromises chief executive, speaks to the convention Saturday



Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin speaks during the leadership forum at the National Rifle Association's annual meeting Friday, May 3, 2013 in Houston. (AP Photo/Steve Uecker)

Palin, former Pennsylvania senator and presidential candidate Rick Santorum and Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, a Republican firebrand who has become one of the top conservative tea party voices in Washington

before the "Stand and Fight" rally that night.

Rob Heagy, a former parole officer from San Francisco, agreed with Porter's description of a culture war.

"It is a cultural fight on

those ten guarantees," referencing the Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution. "Mr. Obama said he wasn't going after our guns. As soon as the Connecticut thing happened, he came after our guns."

NRA Executive Director Chris Cox bragged about the organization's efforts to defeat the gun control bill. "It was great to see the president throw a temper tantrum in the Rose Garden," Cox said.

Gun control advocates were determined to have a presence outside the convention hall. Across the street Friday, the No More Names vigil read the names of gun violence victims since the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre. Gun control advocates also planned a petition drive to support expanded background checks and a Saturday demonstration outside the convention hall. □

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Ex-state senator was directed to record elected officials

THOMAS KAPLAN

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NEW YORK — A former New York state senator who pleaded guilty in a corruption scandal recorded multiple elected officials at the direction of federal prosecutors last year while she was still serving in the Legislature, according to court papers filed by federal prosecutors Friday. The former senator, Shirley L. Huntley, a Queens Democrat, recorded seven elected officials and two others who had previously worked as a consultant or staff member for elected officials, according to the papers. Prosecutors indicated that her recordings may help them bring charges against another, unnamed senator and two other elected officials. The revelation about Huntley suggested a widening

dragnet in Albany: the remarkable specter of two sitting lawmakers — one a senator, the other an assemblyman — simultaneously but independently

taping their colleagues, at the behest of two different prosecutors. Huntley was directed to record elected officials from her position in the Senate by federal pros-

ecutors from Brooklyn at roughly the same time that a member of the Assembly, Nelson L. Castro, was making secret recordings for federal prosecutors in

Manhattan. Huntley pleaded guilty in federal court in January to funneling over \$87,000 in taxpayer money through a nonprofit organization that she was running, and is scheduled to be sentenced Thursday. She lost a Democratic primary in September shortly after she was arrested on corruption charges. According to the court papers, as part of their investigation, law enforcement officials conducted a wiretap of Huntley's cellphone in April and May 2012. Agents with the FBI then confronted the senator with evidence gathered from the wiretap, and she retained a lawyer and later sought to cooperate with the authorities, according to sentencing papers, which were filed in U.S. District Court in Brooklyn by three assistant U.S. attorneys. □



New York State Sen. Shirley Huntley exits federal court after pleading guilty to funneling more than \$87,000 in taxpayer money through a nonprofit organization that she was running, in the Brooklyn borough in New York. Huntley recorded multiple elected officials at the direction of federal prosecutors last year while she was still serving in the Legislature, according to court papers filed by federal prosecutors on Friday, May 3, 2013.

(Uli Seit/The New York Times)

Castro's niece in US for gay rights conference

KATHY MATHESON

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The niece of Fidel Castro said Friday on a trip to Philadelphia that she believes Cuba and the U.S. will have normal relations one day, but she doesn't know when.

"I wish ... I was a magician or (one of those) people who knows everything. That's not the case," Mariela Castro said through a Spanish interpreter. But, she said, "that dream (is) going to be a reality someday." Castro spoke during a tour of the city's historic sites one day before she plans to attend a gay rights conference. The U.S. State Department had initially denied Castro permission to attend the event, but re-

lented earlier this week.

Castro visited the Liberty Bell — an icon of democracy — even as critics say her family has run a repressive Communist dictatorship for decades. Her father, Raul Castro, is Cuba's president and the brother of retired strongman. Mariela Castro spoke briefly to reporters during her sightseeing tour. Asked about the health of her uncle and father, Castro replied: "They're wonderful, and I learn a lot from their example."

Commenting on the gay rights movement in the U.S., she said, "In this election especially, they showed that they form a very important vote in American society." A married mother of three, Castro leads Cuba's National Center for Sex Edu-

cation, which is part of the island nation's public health ministry. She is the country's most prominent

gay rights activist, having trained police on relations with the LGBT community and lobbied lawmakers to

legalize same-sex unions. She was elected as a deputy in Cuba's parliament in February. □



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For Los Angeles, end of the 'free' subway ride

ADAM NAGOURNEY

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LOS ANGELES — There is a startling new sight at the subway station at Hollywood and Vine these days, set amid the handsome trappings of vintage film projectors and movie paraphernalia: five subway turnstiles.

Their appearance amounts to an acknowledgment of the failure of the rider honor system that Los Angeles embraced when it began constructing its subway system nearly 20 years ago. This might not exactly come as a news flash to anyone who has traveled the subways of New York or the Washington Metro, but a gateless subway entrance is not the most effective way to motivate riders to pay their carriage. Los Angeles transit officials say that millions of dollars in annual revenues have been lost because of riders who calculated, reasonably enough, that they could ride the subway free with minimal danger of



A train arrives at a station on the red line of the Los Angeles subway. The recent appearance of turnstiles in Los Angeles subway stations amounts to an acknowledgement of the failure of the rider honor system that the city embraced when it began constructing its subway system nearly 20 years ago. (David McNew/The New York Times)

detection, no matter the occasional deputy sheriff demanding to see a fare card and a \$250 fine for violators.

"A lot of people — if not the majority of people — are not paying their fare," said Zev Yaroslavsky, a county supervisor and a member

of the board of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. "There is no reason for them to pay. The odds of them getting a ticket are slim to none."

This remains a work in progress. Some stations on the system have gates; some

do not. Some of the gates are locked; some slip open with a simple push. The whole process has been ensnared in years of delay, reflecting the complex web of underground trains, light-rail trains and buses that form the public transit system here. Its op-

ponents continue to question whether the supposed recovery of lost revenue would cover the \$46 million installation cost, plus \$103,000 a month in maintenance.

One reason the subways did not include turnstiles was that transit planners thought locked gates would make it that much harder to persuade Los Angeles residents to dip their toes into the mass transit water.

That no longer seems to be a cause of concern: In March, the MTA logged an average of 360,000 rides a day.

There is no way to know how many people had been jumping the turnstile, at least metaphorically, to avoid paying the \$1.50-a-ride fare.

"That is the \$25,000 question," said David Sutton, who is running the operation for the transportation authority. "Ask me in a couple of months. Our lessons learned will be very obvious by then." □

US priest with history of molestation resigns

KATIE ZEZIMA

Associated Press

NEWARK, New Jersey (AP) — A priest resigned after he attended youth retreats and heard confessions from youngsters in defiance of an agree-

ment with prosecutors not to work with children, opening up wounds from the church abuse scandal that started in Boston more than 10 years ago and raising questions about how closely the church moni-

tored the priest's activities. An agreement with prosecutors, reached after the priest's conviction on charges that he fondled a teenage boy were thrown out, was unequivocal. The Rev. Michael Fugee could

return to ministry in the Archdiocese of Newark, but was barred from having unsupervised contact with minors or a job that requires him to oversee or minister to children under the age of 18.

But despite the legally binding agreement, Fugee was a presence at a church youth group, traveling with teenagers to Canada on a mission to help disabled Catholics, hearing confessions from teenagers and participating in retreat trips.

This week's disclosure that Fugee continued to work with children has roiled the faithful in New Jersey.

Fugee submitted a letter of resignation Thursday night, saying the archdiocese was unaware of his youth ministry work. "My failure to request the required permissions to engage in those ministry activities is my fault, my fault alone," Fugee wrote. "I am sorry that my actions have caused pain

to my Church and to her people." But that hasn't stopped victim advocates and politicians, including candidate for governor Barbara Buono, from calling for the resignation of Archbishop John J. Myers, who oversaw Fugee.

Archdiocese spokesman James Goodness called such comments "rash and reckless." He said the archdiocese followed all rules set down by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in dealing with Fugee. But exactly how those rules square with the agreement that allowed Fugee to remain in the priesthood is unclear.

The child protection policy, formally known as the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, states that a priest should be permanently removed from ministry "for even a single act of sexual abuse of a minor_ whenever it occurred_ which is admitted or established." □



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U.S. Financial Front:

Solid job gains in April ease fears about economy

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy showed last month why it remains

market.

The stock market soared after the Labor Department issued the April jobs report Friday. The Dow Jones

to the optimism and help lift future spending."

The Labor Department revised upward its estimate of job gains in February

not mean recession," said John Silvia, chief economist at Wells Fargo. "It does not mean a dramatic slowdown." The unemployment rate edged down from 7.6 percent in March and has fallen 0.4 percentage point since the start of the year, though it remains high. To help spur borrowing, the Fed has said it plans to keep its benchmark interest rate at a record low near zero at least until unemployment falls to 6.5 percent.

The last time unemployment was lower than it is now was in December 2008, when it was 7.3 percent. One cautionary note in the employment report: Most of the biggest job gains were in lower-paying

fields, such as hotels and restaurants, which added 45,000 jobs, and retail stores, which added 29,000.

By contrast, construction companies and governments cut jobs. Manufacturing employment was flat.

Some higher-paying sectors added workers. For example, professional and technical services, which include jobs in accounting, engineering and architecture, added 23,000 jobs. Education and health services gained 44,000. Average hourly pay rose. But because employees in the private sector worked fewer hours, average weekly paychecks declined. □



Billionaire investor Warren Buffett acknowledges the audience as he speaks on the topic of "Women and Work" during a sit-down interview with Fortune's Pattie Sellers, unseen, at the University of Nebraska at Omaha's College of Business Administration, in Omaha, Neb., Thursday, May 2, 2013. Buffett said that most of America's prosperity was created using only about 50 percent of its talent — the men. So he's confident the country will prosper as more women excel in the workforce.

(AP Photo/Nati Harnik)

the envy of industrialized nations: In the face of tax increases and federal spending cuts, employers added a solid 165,000 jobs in April — and far more in February and March than anyone thought.

The hiring in April drove down the unemployment rate to a four-year low of 7.5 percent and sent a reassuring sign that the U.S. job market is improving.

The economy is benefiting from a resurgent housing market, rising consumer confidence and the Federal Reserve's stimulus actions, which have helped lower borrowing costs and lift the stock

industrial average closed up 142 points, or nearly 1 percent, to a record a record 14,973. It briefly broke 15,000 for the first time.

Coming after a poor March jobs report and some recent data showing economic weakness, the April figures helped ease fears that U.S. hiring might be slumping for a fourth straight year.

"Businesses haven't lost confidence yet," said Sung Won Sohn, an economist at the Martin Smith School of Business at California State University. "Consumers are feeling better. The decent employment gains will add

and March by a combined 114,000. It raised its estimate for February job gains from 268,000 to 332,000 and for March from 88,000 to 138,000.

Excluding May 2010, when the figures were skewed by temporary Census hiring, February's gain was the most since November 2005.

The economy has created an average of 208,000 jobs a month from November through April — well above the monthly average of 138,000 for the previous six months.

The stronger job growth suggests that the federal budget cutting "does

This week:

US rig count increases by 10 to 1,764

HOUSTON (AP) — Oilfield services company Baker Hughes Inc. says the number of rigs actively exploring for oil and natural gas in the U.S. rose by 10 this week to 1,764.

The Texas-based company said in its weekly report on Friday that 1,403 rigs were

exploring for oil and 354 for gas. Seven were listed as miscellaneous. A year ago there were 1,965 rigs.

Of the major oil- and gas-producing states, Alaska and Oklahoma each gained five rigs, while North Dakota, Pennsylvania and Wyoming in-

creased by one. Texas lost three rigs, and Louisiana and New Mexico each decreased by one. Arkansas, California, Colorado and West Virginia remained unchanged.

The rig count peaked at 4,530 in 1981 and bottomed at 488 in 1999. □

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Cameron's Conservatives suffer in UK local votes

C. VINOGRAD
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — David Cameron's Conservatives took a drubbing in local elections amid a surge of support for an anti-European Union and anti-immigration party, heaping pressure on the British prime minister to appeal to the dissident right-wing of his own party.

Echoing results across Europe, British voters appeared to punish the ruling government, fed up with economic doldrums and austerity measures. Britain's nationalist party appeared to be the recipient of a sizeable protest vote against the political elite and the EU, analysts said. According to returns Friday from 34 contests across

England, the right-wing United Kingdom Independence Party, or UKIP, won 139 county council seats, while the mainstream opposition Labour Party gained 291.

The Liberal Democrats — junior partners in Britain's coalition government — were down 124 county council seats, while Cameron's ruling Conservatives lost 335 seats in Thursday's vote.

UKIP leader Nigel Farage — whose party Cameron once referred to as a bunch of "fruitcakes, loonies and closet racists" — said the results will send a "shock wave" through the British political establishment. "This is a real sea-change in British politics," Farage told the BBC.

Cameron's popularity has taken a beating as the government sticks to a strict policy of austerity to cut Britain's debts, slashing

it's found its lightning conductor through UKIP," Travers said. "However, there is a more generalized protest that isn't just against this

term could lend momentum to voices within Cameron's party urging the prime minister to introduce legislation needed to en-



United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP) leader Nigel Farage arrives in Westminster, London, Friday May 3, 2013, after a successful night in the local council elections. David Cameron's Conservative Party has taken a drubbing in local elections amid a surge of support for right-wing UKIP, an anti-European Union and anti-immigration party.

(AP Photo/PA, Stefan Rousseau)



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public sector jobs and welfare payments. As results streamed in highlighting UKIP's strong showing in the election, Cameron said respect must be shown for those who chose to support the party.

"We are going to work really hard to win them back," he added.

The prime minister now finds himself in the difficult position of trying to shore up right-wing backing ahead of the next general election in 2015, while trying to maintain his own affinity for more left-wing causes.

The results are a mixture of typical midterm protest and "rage against the machine," said Tony Travers, director of the government department at the London School of Economics and Political Science. "It is a traditional midterm protest vote and

government in its midterm, but is also a protest against mainstream elite politics." He suggested UKIP's appeal — and the local election results — bear echoes of the Tea Party movement in the U.S., complete with cries of "we need to get our country back."

"This is a vote against 'they're all the same.'"

While Friday's results will jeopardize the Conservative Party's success in the 2015 general election, Travers was skeptical the local elections would steer Cameron further to the right. "Cameron is quite awkwardly trapped," Travers said. "The number of options available to him to shift towards UKIP are limited if he's to keep faith with his own commitment to modernizing the Conservative Party," Travers said. Still, the results in the short

shrine his pledge for a referendum on European Union membership by 2017.

That promise of a referendum was seen by many as a political play to shore up support for the Conservatives amid growing signs of discontent within the party and voters flocking for the exits. The heart of UKIP's success lies not only in harnessing anti-immigration sentiment and appealing to socially conservative views on gay marriage, but exploiting Britons frustrations with a stagnating economy. John Curtice, a politics professor at the University of Strathclyde, said the challenges facing Cameron's Conservatives in clawing back voters were underscored by the response to the prime minister's pledge to change Britain's relationship with the EU.

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Pressure on Bangladesh, retailers to fix factories

**FARID HOSSAIN
STEPHEN WRIGHT
Associated Press**

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — In the aftermath of a building collapse that killed more than 500 people, Bangladesh's garment manufacturers may face a choice of reform or perish. Home to five factories that supplied clothing to retailers in Europe and the United States, the shoddily constructed building's collapse has put a focus on the high human price paid when Bangladeshi government ineptitude, Western consumer apathy and global retailing's drive for the lowest cost of production intersect.

Police said Friday that more than 500 bodies have been pulled from the wreckage of the eight-story Rana Plaza building that collapsed nine days ago, sparking desperate rescue efforts, a national outpouring of grief and violent street protests.

The tragedy followed the deaths of 112 people five months ago in a blaze that swept through the Tazreen

Fashions garment factory in Dhaka and the death of seven in a January blaze. With three disasters in quick

ment manufacturers fear that a backlash has been set in motion that threatens fortunes and livelihoods in

the current crisis. It's not the time to turn away from us. That will hurt the industry and many of the workers will lose jobs."

The most potent warning so far has come from the European Union, which said it could restrict Bangladesh's access to the crucial EU market if it fails to immediately take steps to ensure that basic labor standards are enforced.

Bangladesh is a member of Europe's "Everything But Arms" program for the world's poorest nations that exempts it from quotas and tariffs on all exports to the 27-nation EU except armaments. The EU is Bangladesh's single biggest market with exports of 8 billion euros in 2011, the bulk of which was garments shipped for European retailers. "The sheer scale of this disaster and the alleged criminality around the building's construction is finally becoming clear to the world," EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton and trade commissioner Karel De Gucht said in an April 30 statement.

They said they want any EU action to "incentivize" responsible management of the garment industry in Bangladesh.

The United States is also reviewing Bangladesh's preferential trade status, a lengthy process that gained urgency after the killing last year of a Bangladeshi labor rights organizer who had campaigned for years to improve factory safety. Garments are not included in the American trade preferences for Bangladesh but loss of its special market access would further taint its reputation in the U.S., its second largest export market.

As a U.S. decision nears, the building collapse gives additional momentum to members of Congress who wrote to Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to protest a climate of fear created by the killing of Aminul Islam, the labor organizer, and lobbied then-U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk to speed up a review of Bangladesh's trade access following the Tazreen fire. □



A woman lingers around the rubble holding a portrait of her missing daughter after a garment factory building collapsed last week in Savar, near Dhaka, Bangladesh, Friday, May 3, 2013 in Savar, near Dhaka, Bangladesh.

(AP Photo/Wong Maye-E)

succession, the reputation of Bangladesh's \$20 billion garment industry, already notorious for its low wages and dismal safety record, has plummeted. International clothing brands and retailers that said they could ensure worker safety in developing countries through self-regulation such as factory inspections have also suffered a blow to their credibility.

Now, Bangladesh's gar-

a business that employs more than 3 million people and accounts for about 80 percent of the impoverished country's exports.

"It's a crucial time for us," said Atiqul Islam, president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association. "We are doing our best to improve the safety measures in the factories. We expect our buyers to bear with us and help us to overcome

Rat meat sold as lamb in China food scandal

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese police have broken up a criminal ring accused of taking meat from rats and foxes and selling it as lamb in the country's latest food safety scandal.

The Ministry of Public Security released results of a three-month crackdown on food safety violators, saying in a statement that authorities investigated more than 380 cases and arrested 904 suspects.

Among those arrested were 63 people who allegedly ran an operation in Shanghai and the coastal city of Wuxi that bought fox, mink, rat and other meat that had not been tested for quality and safety, processed it with additives like gelatin and passed it off as lamb.

The meat was sold to farmers' markets in Jiangsu province and Shanghai, it said.

Despite years of food

scandals — from milk contaminated with an industrial chemical to the use of industrial dyes in eggs — China has been unable to clean up its food supply chain.

The announcement came as China's top court on Friday issued guidelines calling for harsher punishment for making and selling unsafe food products in the latest response to tainted food scandals that have angered the public.

The Supreme People's Court said the guidelines will list as crimes specific acts such as the sale of food excessively laced with chemicals or made from animals that have died from disease or unknown causes.

China's penal code, which forbids unsafe and poisonous food, does not specify what acts are considered in violation of the law.

Adulterating baby food so

that it severely lacks nutrition is also punishable as a crime under the guidelines. Negligent government food inspectors are also targeted for criminal punishment.

The supreme court said 2,088 people have been prosecuted in 2010-2012 in 1,533 food safety cases. It said the number of such cases has grown exponentially in the past several years.

For example, Chinese courts prosecuted 861 cases of poisonous food in 2012, compared to 80 cases in 2010.

"The situation is really grave and has indeed caused great harm to the people," Pei Xianding, a supreme court judge, told a news conference.

"We cannot tolerate it any longer. We must punish the criminals severely, or we cannot answer to our people," Pei said. □

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Brutal sectarian killings reported in Syrian village

RYAN LUCAS
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — The bodies of the Syrian boys and young men in jeans and casual shirts were strewn along a blood-stained pavement, dying ap-

again weighing whether to arm the rebels. Syria's 2-year-old crisis has largely broken along sectarian lines: the Sunni majority forms the backbone of the rebellion, while President Bashar Assad's minori-

and that at least six government troops were killed. Syrian forces backed by Alawite gunmen known as shabiha from the surrounding area returned in the afternoon and stormed the village, according to the

the men, who appeared already dead. A woman also is heard wailing, "Where are you, people of the village?"

The video appears genuine and consistent with reporting by The Associated Press from the area.

Syria's state news agency said late Thursday that the army conducted a raid in Bayda, killing several "terrorists" — the term it uses for those trying to oust Assad — and seizing machine guns, automatic rifles and other weapons.

Syrian troops were still in Bayda on Friday, conducting house-to-house searches, according to the Observatory's director, Rami Abdul-Rahman. He added that phone and Internet service to the village was cut, making it impossible to verify the final death toll or pin down more details on what happened.

The Observatory also re-

ported clashes and government shelling of Sunni areas of Baniyas on Friday.

If confirmed, the bloodshed in Bayda would be the latest in a series of alleged mass killings in the civil war. Last month, activists said government troops killed more than 100 people as they seized two rebel-held suburbs of Damascus.

The violence in Bayda bears a closer resemblance to two reported mass killings last year in Houla and Qubeir, Sunni villages surrounded by Alawite towns. Some activists said the Houla and Qubeir carnage, which they blame on regime forces and shabiha, was aimed at driving Sunnis from areas near main routes to the coast to ensure Alawite control. Months of bloodshed have sharpened the divide and unleashed sectarian hatred. □



In this citizen journalism image released on Thursday, May 2, 2013 by a group that calls itself The Syrian Revolution Against Bashar Assad, which has been authenticated based on its contents and other AP reporting, a Syrian man, center, identifies dead bodies, who were killed according to activists by Syrian forces loyal to Bashar Assad, in Bayda village, in the mountains outside the coastal city of Baniyas, Syria. Syria's main opposition group on Friday accused President Bashar Assad's regime of committing a "large-scale massacre" in a Sunni village near the Mediterranean coast, killing scores of people, according to activists.

(AP Photo/The Syrian Revolution Against Bashar Assad)

parently where they fell. Weeping women moved among the dead, and one of them screamed, "Where are you, people of the village?"

In the Syrian civil war's latest alleged mass killing, activists said Friday that regime troops and gunmen from nearby Alawite areas beat, stabbed and shot at least 50 people in the Sunni Muslim village of Bayda.

The slayings highlighted in the starkest terms the sectarian overtones of a conflict that has already killed more than 70,000 people. Details of the killings came to light as the Obama administration said it was

ty Alawite sect, an offshoot of Shiite Islam, anchors the regime's security services and military officer corps. Other minorities, such as Christians, largely support Assad or stand on the sidelines, worried that the regime's fall would bring about a more Islamist rule. The killings in Bayda fall against this backdrop. Tucked in the mountains outside the Mediterranean coastal city of Baniyas, the village is predominantly Sunni but is located in the Alawite ancestral heartland centered in the rugged region along the sea. Activists say fighting broke out in Bayda early Thursday

Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

The gunmen torched homes and used knives, guns and blunt objects to kill people in the streets, the group said. It added that it has documented the names of at least 50 dead in Bayda, but that dozens of villagers are still missing and the death toll could rise to as high as 100. Amateur video showed the bodies of at least seven men and boys lying in pools of blood on the pavement in front of a house as women wept around them.

"Don't sleep, don't move," one woman sobbed, leaning over to touch one of

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Central America struggles to unite for Obama trip

ALBERTO ARCE

LUIS LUGO

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)

—President Barack Obama on Friday visits a Central America that continues to be plagued by violence, drug trafficking, corruption and poverty, despite the success of a decade-old trade agreement with the United States.

Central America's problems have, in turn, directly impacted the U.S., as thousands from the region migrate north each year along increasingly deadly smuggling routes.

Obama earlier this week said his trip will focus on the economy and security. He will meet Friday evening with the eight-nation Central American Integration System, known by its Spanish initials SICA, which was formed to discuss regional issues.

Yet the president will also encounter the national rivalries that have often blocked cooperation.

Guatemala and Belize maintain a border dispute. Honduras and El Salvador are fighting over the use of the waters and shores of the Gulf of Fonseca, and a conflict between Nicaragua and Costa Rica has been escalating over the San Juan River border. On top of that, Panama, Costa Rica and Nicaragua often feel excluded because Guatemala, El Salvador

and Honduras get the bulk of U.S. security aid, said Eric Olson, associate director of the Latin American program at the Wilson Center think tank in Washington.

"SICA has tried to build itself as the place where all these countries can come together and that can be the distribution point for that aid," Olson said. "But I think the rivalry between these governments gets in the way."

Still, the Central American presidents have come manned to talk about security, an issue they see as directly related to drug consumption in the United States. Some Central American countries have the highest murder rates in the world, with Honduras often called the world's most dangerous country.

Leaders here say they want the U.S. to take more responsibility in the fight against drug cartels.

"We need the decided support of the U.S. to attack our common enemy, drug trafficking," Honduran President Porfirio Lobo said Thursday. "Unfortunately, Honduras and the countries of the region bear the dead of a war that we didn't start and that we repudiate."

It's time to renew our mutual political cooperation." The White House doesn't plan to launch any new initiatives with this trip, said Ricardo Zuniga, the lead



President Barack Obama smiles as he poses for a group photo at a cultural event with youth performers in San Jose, Costa Rica, Friday, May 3, 2013.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

official for Latin America policy on the U.S. National Security Council. Rather, it wants to talk about better coordination and use of the aid that is already going to the region.

"Besides the United States expressing its deep worry over the deterioration of the region, there isn't much more to expect," said Cynthia Arnson, director of the Latin American program at the Wilson Center.

Since 2008, the United States has allocated \$496 million in security cooperation to Central America, Zuniga said, and that number isn't expected to increase substantially. The White House asked for \$162 million for the fight against

drug trafficking in its 2014 budget through the Central America Regional Security Initiative. That's \$26 million more than what was allocated in 2012.

By comparison, Washington has allocated \$1.9 billion to Mexico since 2008 for the fight against drug trafficking through the Merida Initiative.

Even on security issues, the countries have difficulty uniting.

"There is no effective cooperation because there is no trust," said Ignacio de Lucas, coordinator of the Network of Prosecutors against Organized Crime, an initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

that brings together 10 prosecutors from Mexico to Colombia. "Sometimes big projects arise, for example creating a database to cooperate with Interpol, but what information will go there? Without trust there will not be useful information."

The more relevant forum to discuss drug trafficking in the region will be the June general assembly of the Organization of American States, said Guatemalan Foreign Minister Luis Carrera Castro.

Aside from security concerns, Central American presidents also have agreed to prioritize economic issues in their meeting with Obama. □

Giant rubber duck makes splash in Hong Kong harbor

ANNIE HO

Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP)

— A six-story-high rubber duck is making a big splash in Hong Kong.

Crowds watched the inflatable duck being pulled by tugboat across Victoria Harbor in front of Hong Kong's signature skyscraper skyline.

Tourist Zhang Wenjin from Shanghai says it's a big surprise. "This is huge. My daughter liked it when she saw it just now. Because kids like cute stuff."

Yu Kwan Yee of Hong Kong was part of the crowd.



A giant Rubber Duck created by Dutch artist Florentijn Hofman is towed along Hong Kong's Victoria Harbour Thursday, May 2, 2013.

Since 2007 the 16.5-meter (54-foot)-tall Rubber Duck has traveled to various cities including Osaka, Sydney, Sao Paulo and Amsterdam.

(AP Photo/Vincent Yu)

"The duckie is swimming," the 2 1/2-year-old said.

Dutch artist Florentijn Hofman created the bright-yellow duck, and it was built of PVC material in New Zealand by a company specializing in large sails. □



May 4, 2013:

Wine, Women & Fashion: Ladies Night where the boys can join!



PALM BEACH - What is Wine, Women and Fashion? Palm Beach Plaza Mall is announcing Wine, Women & Fashion. It is a new, unique and fun event especially for women, where

the ladies come and meet each other and have a delightful time, enjoying a movie, shopping, dining, fashion shows and prizes. Wine Women & Fashion is a monthly event, every first

Saturday of the month.

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There is also -Dining with the Girls-. Make a group of 5 girlfriends and the 5th will receive a free meal and a bottle of wine. Each one will also receive a Bingo Card.

MEN-DAYCARE!

The Gentlemen can also enjoy the Wine, Women & Fashion. Palm Beach Plaza has created a men-daycare which is a guys corner located on the 3rd floor. You can sPlay Billiard, punch machine event,



car game event, unlimited beer event (45min), dart event, dance time (Music:Harlem shake and Gangnam style), watch a game which will be transmitted through a projector screen. Each one will also receive a Bingo Card.

Price: Afls.40,- per person (activities and 45min unlimited beer and snacks included)

KIDSFUN!

The Kids can also enjoy Wine, Woman and Fashion. Palm Beach Plaza Mall will have a daycare for the

kids at Dream Bowl, where the kids will be entertained from 4:30pm to 9:00pm. Price: AFLS.30,- PER KID, AFLS.55,- FOR TWO, AFLS.75,- FOR THREE.

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- * SNACKS ☐



Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort honors outstanding team!

PALM BEACH - The Aruba Phoenix Beach resort honored their employees of the 1st quarter in the Sunset Ballroom recently. The awards were presented by the General Manager Mr. Gerrit Griffith. The nominees for the employee of the 1st quarter were: Herley Bocanegra in the F&B department; Sandra Mora in the Kitch-

en department; Hemradj Mulai in the Spa; Leuwent Gumbs in the front office department. The winner and elected employee of the 1st quarter is Herley Bocanegra, for his hard work, dedication and going the extra mile. The nominees for the supervisor of the 1st quarter were: Jacqueline Better in the Housekeeping de-

partment; Alvinio Kelly in the Front Office department; Erasmo Ramirez in the Kitchen department. The winner and elected supervisor of the 1st quarter is Erasmo Ramirez, for his hard work, dedication and going the extra mile. Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort also celebrated some anniversaries. 10 year anniversaries: Jorge



Bautista, Ceferino Dalisay, Viviana Diaz, Luz Elena In-suasti, and Ronald Norton. 15 year anniversaries: Clide Jones, Avril Culley, Maria Olaya, Theodora Flores, and Jacqueline Cousins. 25 year anniversaries: Andres Geerman and Lillian Kock.

Given the recent coronation day of our new king, the ballroom and event was themed red, white and blue, and a slide show was displaying the history of the kingdom for the employees. The employees enjoyed a nice evening with snacks and drinks.



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Will you Rock for the Arts Tonight?

PALM BEACH - Please join us for an evening of Led Zeppelin's greatest songs played by local and guest musicians at the Hard Rock Café this Saturday, May 4 from 7-11PM. The show is produced by local artist Ernesto Ferro, and sponsored by the Hard Rock Cafe.

This event is a fundraiser for the Arts Complex under construction at the International School of Aruba.

The Project Specifics: Six rooms for World Language, Visual, Performing and Dialogue Arts:

Two Classroom Studios devoted to the Visual Arts
Two Classrooms dedicated to World Language Arts: Secondary Dutch (VWO, Havo and Mavo) and English Language

One Performing Arts Studio for Dance, Music and Drama

One Multidisciplinary Conference Room

How will the rest of Aruba benefit from this project? This building will support both ISA and Community programs. In addition to the full school programs during the day, we imagine the school open from 4:00PM each day to evening, as well as Saturday when we would like to create classes for the community at affordable prices. Programs could include the arts – visual (painting, drawing and ceramics) and performing (drama, dance and musical theater,) as well as world languages, especially English, Dutch and Spanish. We recently have started hosting local soccer groups, as well as informal matches in basketball, beach volleyball and beach tennis, and look forward to expanding those programs as well. ISA for all!

How does ISA align with the Aruban education? ISA plays a unique role in the educational opportunities offered on Aruba. ISA serves students who want an English language school accredited by the United States and/

or Holland. Because we also successfully prepare students for the Dutch landexamen (Mavo, Havo and VWO), students have the opportunity to attend college or university anywhere in the world. We support the professional and business communities of Aruba through our services, and enhance the capabilities of Aruba to draw key expatriate

families to the island. ISA works hard to support Aruban initiatives and sees itself as a partner in the development of Aruba through education of its youth: 77 of our 205 students are Dutch/Aruban. ISA actively supports the Aruban community through a wide of range actions such as donating computers to a school in San Nicolas, lending our

buses to the Red Cross and others, volunteering at the Special Olympics, facilitating student tutors at the YMCA, numerous beach clean-ups, and more.

The possibilities! With the addition of this building, ISA teachers and staff will be able to create programs that will inspire students to grow and learn in all dimensions – physical,

academic and spiritual. The Arts fill a niche and foster the human spirit in ways unattainable through academic or athletic activities.

With your support, ISA can become a true partner in the development of strong educational programs around the island. So, come Rock for the Arts this weekend at the Hard Rock Café! □

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The Casino at the Radisson is gearing up for Mother's Day Bingo!

PALM BEACH - Patrons are invited to join the fun under the stars at the Casino at the Radisson for high stake bingo every Saturday and Sunday, at 1pm, \$6 per card, with more than \$1,000 in prizes.

In honor of the upcoming Mother's Day, on May 12th, prize money has doubled and the anticipation for that special day is palpable at the casino.

Other special casino features included double points during certain hours every day, Mystery Jack-

pots which can hit on any slot machine at any unexpected time, even without a winning combination, Free Play Fever, Happy Hour and Ladies Night on Sunday, where the first 100 ladies who present themselves at the desk with a Winners' Circle card, receive \$15 in Free Play.

Pictured here one of the casino lucky players, Mr. Rueman who won \$ 500 last night, on Sparkling Diamonds, posing in the picture with casino host, Glen Baluarte. □

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CASINO AND SHOPS

Wide-open race expected in 139th Kentucky Derby

BETH HARRIS

AP Racing Writer

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky (AP)

— A trainer flooding the field with five horses. A black jockey trying to make history, and a woman rider, too. Louisville coach Rick Pitino seeking a double — champions in racing and basketball. He's sure in the right place.

The 19-horse field for Saturday's Kentucky Derby is balanced, with no definitive favorite.

Orb is the pre-race choice, just barely. Nearly overshadowed is his trainer, Shug McGaughey, who really, really wants this race. Doug O'Neill trying to win back-to-back. And then there's the threat of rain, which has done in some of the best-laid plans on race



In this Monday, April 29, 2013, file photo, exercise rider Jenn Patterson rides Kentucky Derby entrant Orb for a workout at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky. Orb has been made the early 7-2 favorite for the Kentucky Derby on Wednesday, May 1, 2013, with undefeated Verrazano the second choice in a full field of 20 horses.

Associated Press

ship last month. The coach recently got elected to basketball's Hall of Fame, so a Derby win would complete the ultimate trifecta. Rosie Napravnik wants to grab history for herself, too. No female jockey has ever won the Derby, although she came closest, with a ninth-place finish in 2011. Napravnik will ride 15-1 long shot Mylute.

"He feels great, he's acting great and I'm very confident heading into the Derby," she said. Orb was the narrow 7-2 early favorite for the 139th Derby. He comes in on a four-race winning streak for McGaughey, the 62-year-old trainer whose Hall of Fame resume lacks a Derby victory. He's making his second appearance since 1989, when he finished second with Easy Goer. "I hope the track is fast and safe for everybody and nobody has any excuses, and let the best horse win," McGaughey said. Goldencents will be trying to deliver for more than Krigger and Pitino. He's trained by O'Neill, who put unknown Mario Gutierrez aboard I'll Have Another last year and won. The trainer is following the same script this time, giving Krigger a big break while trying to become the first trainer to win back-to-back Derbies since Bob Baffert in 1997-98.

"We think it is our time," O'Neill said. "We think it is us." Don't look for the white-haired Baffert on Saturday. The three-time Derby winner isn't saddling a horse this year, but like everyone, he had an opinion.

"Whoever has the heart will win it," he said.

The forecast calls for an 80 percent chance of rain and a high of 59 degrees. The last Derby run on a sloppy track was in 2010.

"It'll make the Derby that much more wide open," said trainer Ken McPeck, who has two starters, Frac Daddy and Java's War.

Lukas has two horses — Ox-bow and Will Take Charge — ready for his 27th Derby. The four-time winning trainer planned to sleep soundly the night before. □

day.

It sure looks like a topsy-turvy Derby.

"I don't think we've got Secretariat in this bunch, even Seattle Slew," four-time Derby-winning trainer D. Wayne Lukas said, "so I think it's going to boil down to the trip and the pace and a lot of other things." Todd Pletcher will saddle a record-tying five horses — undefeated and early second choice Verrazano, Revolutionary, Overanalyze, Palace Malice and Charming Kitten.

"We laid out a plan to get here with them, and it's all come down pretty much like we hoped," said Pletcher, who has one Derby win with 31 previous starters.

Verrazano is 4-0 in his young career, not having run as a 2-year-old. He'll be trying to disprove an old Derby jinx: no horse since Apollo in 1882 has won without racing as a juvenile.

Relative unknown Kevin Krigger will be aboard Goldencents, trying to become the first black jockey to win since Jimmy Winkfield in 1902.

"I'm going to ride us the race that should get us to the Kentucky Derby winner's circle," Krigger said.

The colt is partly owned by Pitino, whose Cardinals won the NCAA champion-

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Ovechkin, Holtby lead Capitals past Rangers 3-1

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alex Ovechkin's franchise-record 31st career playoff goal got the Capitals started before less-heralded teammates Marcus Johansson and Jason Chimera scored 46 seconds apart, and Washington beat the New York Rangers 3-1 Thursday night in Game 1 of their first-round series. Ovechkin, a two-time MVP who led the NHL with 32 goals this season, crashed the net to score on a power play about seven minutes into the second period to tie the game. Carl Hagelin had put New York ahead 1-0 in the first period — the only puck that made it past Braden Holtby, who finished with 35 saves. Game 2 of the best-of-seven series is Saturday in Washington.

It's the third consecutive season these two teams are facing each other in the playoffs and the fourth time in five years.

The Rangers eliminated the Capitals in seven games in the second round last season.

BLUES 2, KINGS 1

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Defenseman Barret Jackman scored his first career playoff goal with 50.4 seconds remaining, lifting St. Louis over defending Stanley Cup champion Los Angeles for the second straight time.

Jackman, a stay-at-home type who totaled three goals and 12 points in the regular season, joined a rush and scored in transition against Jonathan Quick, last year's playoff MVP. He beat Quick from just inside the blue line for a 2-0 series lead heading to Los Angeles.

The Blues capitalized on a stickhandling goof by Quick to win the opener on Alex Steen's short-handed goal in overtime.

Patrik Berglund's deflection tied it early in the third period for St. Louis, which was swept by the Kings in the second round last season

while getting outscored 15-6.

Dustin Brown scored for the Kings, who'll try to rebound in Game 3 Saturday night. **SENATORS 4, CANADIENS 2** **MONTREAL (AP)** — Craig Anderson made 48 saves in a spectacular goaltending performance in Game 1. Jakob Silfverberg and Marc Methot scored early in the third period to lift the Senators into the lead.

Game 2 set for Friday night at the Bell Centre.

Erik Karlsson and Guillaume Latendresse also scored for the Senators, who were outshot 50-31 but saw Anderson easily win the goaltending duel with Carey Price, who was beaten twice through the pads.

Rene Bourque and Brendan Gallagher replied for Montreal, which set a team record for shots in a regulation-time playoff game.

Montreal center Lars Eller was wheeled off on a stretcher bleeding heavily from the nose and was taken to a hospital with what the team said were head and facial injuries after he was caught with a shoulder to the face on an open-ice hit from Senators defenseman Eric Gryba.

Red Wings 5, Ducks 4, OT **ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)** — Gustav Nyquist's power-play goal at 1:21 of overtime after the Red Wings blew a three-goal lead in the third period to even their playoff series with Anaheim.

Johan Franzen scored two goals and Damien Brunner had his first Stanley Cup playoff goal and two assists for the Red Wings, who survived a third-period collapse with a timely goal from Nyquist.

Bobby Ryan scored the tying goal with 2:22 left in regulation for the Ducks, who also got goals from captain Ryan Getzlaf and Kyle Palmieri while erasing Detroit's 4-1 lead with a phenomenal surge in the final minutes.

Game 3 is Saturday night at Joe Louis Arena. □



In this photo taken Thursday, May 2, 2013, Montreal Canadiens' Lars Eller lies injured on the ice following a hit by Ottawa Senators' Eric Gryba (62) during the second period of Game 1 of an NHL hockey Stanley Cup playoffs first-round series in Montreal. Canadiens coach Michel Therrien accused his Senators counterpart Paul MacLean of "disrespect" on Friday for his comments about the hit that put Eller in the hospital. Eller suffered a concussion and facial fractures

Associated Press

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AP Source: LeBron wins 4th NBA MVP award

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

LeBron James is getting his fourth Most Valuable Player award — and the only mystery left is whether the vote was unanimous.

The Miami Heat star will be introduced Sunday as the award winner, according to a person familiar with the results and who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the league has not publicly announced the result. James will become the fifth player with at least four MVP awards, joining Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Michael Jordan, Bill Russell and Wilt Chamberlain.

No one has ever swept every first-place vote in the NBA's MVP balloting. After the season he had, James could be the first.

"I don't know who else you'd vote for," Heat forward Chris Bosh said Friday. "No offense to everybody else, but that's just how good he has played this

year."

James averaged 26.8 points, 8.0 rebounds and 7.3 assists this season, shooting a career-best 56 percent. It was absolutely no surprise that he won the award, and given the timetable for Miami's next game — the Heat don't open Eastern Conference semifinal play until Monday night against Brooklyn or Chicago — it had been widely assumed for several days that Sunday would be the day.

"I absolutely have not even thought about it," James said earlier this week when asked if he considered the weight of winning the award four times in five years. "I have not thought about it, until you just brought it up. I know the history. It would be a unique, unbelievable class I would be a part of, so we'll see." Only Russell had won four MVPs in five years, and only Abdul-Jabbar had gone back-to-back on the award twice.

James won the award in 2009 and 2010, only got four first-place votes in 2011 — his first season with the Heat — then reclaimed the award last season.

"The other day I was sitting there with him, a week or two ago and it dawned on me," Heat guard Dwyane Wade told the AP. "I said to him, 'Do you know you're about to get four MVPs in five years?' And he's like, 'Man, I'm just a kid from Akron.' He could have gotten five in five. You know how crazy that is? This is crazy." The "kid from Akron" is truly entering rarefied air now.

There have been instances of people coming close to sweeping the first-place votes. Shaquille O'Neal got 120 of the 121 top votes cast after the 1999-2000 season, with Allen Iverson getting the lone other one that year. And after the 2003-04 season, Kevin Garnett — then with Minnesota — got 120 of 123 votes, with two going to Jermaine



In this March 13, 2013, file photo, Miami Heat's LeBron James goes up for a dunk in the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Philadelphia 76ers in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

O'Neal and the other to Peja Stojakovic.

James finally got his first NBA championship last season, followed that up by helping the United States win a gold medal at the London Olympics, and then vowed to come back this season even better.

The Heat say he did absolutely that.

"We're all in unison: We

think he has earned it," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "He has had an even more historic season than last year. The beauty of that, if he does in fact earn it, is the fact that probably most people didn't necessarily think he could go to a different level, a higher level, after last season. Yet he reinvented himself and showed that he could." □

Mickelson

Continued from Page 17

"With them being slower, we're able to putt them aggressively," Mickelson said. "We're able to take some of the break out without fear of racing it way by. And I've made a concerted effort to leave uphill putts, which has allowed me to putt even more aggressive and play even less break. And that's made a big difference in my putting."

For a tournament that already has had six major champions win in the 10-year history, Mickelson is missing from the list. He was at 9-under 135 heading into the weekend, though there is plenty of star power around him.

Nick Watney played with Mickelson the opening two rounds and looks efficient, going bogey-free on the back nine. He had a 70



Pádraig Harrington, of Ireland, putts with a belly putter on the 16th hole during the second round of the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, N.C., Friday, May 3, 2013.

Associated Press

and was at 7-under 137, along with George McNeill (68) and Australia's Scott Gardiner, the 37-year-old tour rookie who had missed eight straight cuts coming into the Quail Hollow. Gardiner ran off four straight birdies at the turn and had a 67.

Rory McIlroy struggled with the speed of the greens — he felt they were much faster than Thursday — but rallied on the front nine with three birdies for a 71. Lee Westwood twice hit into the water on the par-5 seventh and still escaped with a bogey by making a 25-foot putt. He had a 68. They were in a group at 6-under 138 that included Rod Pampling, the ninth alternate and last man in the field.

Sergio Garcia twice made news for his work on the greens. Firstly, he used his wedge to knock in a 5-footer on the third hole, avoiding some scraping on the green.

"The only way I could make this putt was to get lucky," said Garcia. The prudent move was to hit a wedge, chip it just over the rough turf, and he pulled it off beautifully.

Garcia didn't sign for his 68 — he was five shots behind — until talking to rules

officials and going over the videotape. A TV viewer said it appeared Garcia did not replace his ball in the same spot where he marked it on the 17th. Garcia, demonstrating later for reporters, said he slid the coin to the side of the ball, and turned his hand around when he replaced the ball so he wouldn't brush the coin. He said it appeared his ball was a fraction of an inch away from the original spot.

PGA Tour rules officials signed off on it, and Garcia said they even called the USGA to confirm.

"I said, 'If you guys feel like I gained something by moving it — I don't know how much, like a centimeter or couple centimeters, whatever it is — I'm fine with the two-stroke penalty. I'd rather take the two-stroke penalty than come out here like I was a cheater,'" Garcia said. "They felt that wasn't the case. I told them exactly what I did, and they

felt it was fine."


Garcia also said he hurt his back on a tee shot at the 10th and would get treatment on it, uncertain he would play depending on how it felt Saturday.

Saturday will be busier than expected. A couple of late bogeys and one double bogey dropped the cut to 2-over 146, allowing more than a dozen players back into the tournament. That means there will be another cut on Saturday.

Through it all, there was plenty of aggravation. Bubba Watson opened with a three-putt from 10 feet, added a four-putt from about 65 feet on the 12th hole, and had another three-putt from 15 feet.

But it was like that for everyone, which is why McNeill had a peculiar answer when asked what the winner had to do well this weekend.

"It's the guy who keeps control of his emotions the best," McNeill said. □



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Mayweather, Guerrero square off in title fight

TIM DAHLBERG
AP Boxing Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — He claims to be more mature now, chastened by a stint in jail and eager to be just as much a businessman as a fighter. Indeed, Floyd Mayweather Jr. acted almost statesmanlike earlier this week when Robert Guerrero's father began screaming that he was a woman beater who would finally get beaten himself Saturday night.

"The fighters are the ones who fight, not the fathers," Mayweather said calmly. If it's an act, it's a pretty good one. Armed with a new six-fight television deal with Showtime that should keep him the world's highest paid athlete, Mayweather has for the most part taken the high road while promoting his fight against Robert Guerrero as must-see TV for anyone who has an extra \$69.95 for the pay-per-view.

Mayweather weighed in at 146 pounds on Friday. Guerrero checked in at the weight-class limit of 147. The two meet in a scheduled 12-round welterweight title match at the MGM Grand hotel in what will be Mayweather's first fight in a year. It's also his first ring appearance since serving a jail term for assaulting the mother of his children, an experience he said helped him grow up. Sometimes, though, he just can't help himself. The old Mayweather surfaces, complete with the bad-boy persona that has made him the biggest draw in boxing.

It could be that Mayweather as the promoter is trying to give a fight that still hasn't sold out some much needed buzz. More likely,



though, is that he's looking for a bit of a mental edge for a bout that, despite the odds, could be very competitive.

He called Guerrero a hypocrite for promoting himself as a devout Christian, and then getting arrested on gun charges in New York. He mocked him for bringing up his jail sentence when he may be facing one himself.

And a few days before the fight he even accused Guerrero of trying to win fans by using his wife's leukemia — which she overcame with a bone marrow transplant — as a way to get sympathy.

"I'm glad she was able to beat leukemia, which is a great thing," Mayweather said. "But they keep selling the same story. It's time to talk about something different."

Guerrero has had his share of things to say about Mayweather, too, though it was his father who made the loudest statement when he repeatedly called Mayweather a woman beater

at the final prefight press conference. The game plan in the Guerrero camp is the same as it will be in the ring — not to back off when challenged.

"That's part of his game, getting under your skin and getting you off your game," Robert Guerrero said. "It's not working. He's in for a fight and he knows it." None of the talk matters, of course, once the two men finally meet.

The title belt at stake doesn't matter all that much, either, in an era of inflated and cheap titles. Mayweather has a franchise to protect, one that has made him untold millions of dollars since he beat Oscar De La Hoya in 2007 to catapult into the top seller ranks. He'll earn \$32 million to take on Guerrero and try to remain perfect in 44 professional fights.

He hand picks his opponents these days, but had to do some studying before giving Guerrero the biggest fight of his life.

"I didn't know who he was a year ago," Mayweath-

er said of Guerrero, who waged a very public campaign to get the fight. "I probably heard his name in passing but didn't know who the guy was. But he's earned his shot, and now he'll get it."

No one questions Mayweather's ability after crafting both a career and an empire with his fists. But he got hit with more punches than usual in his last fight, against Miguel Cotto — a bout he won even while admittedly not at his best. He's also an aging fighter at 36, hasn't fought in a year and spent two months since then doing pushups — in solitary confinement in a small cell in downtown Las Vegas.

"I don't want to make the same mistakes I made in the Cotto fight," Mayweather said. "I think I trained too hard for that fight. I'm a better fighter than I was in the Cotto fight."

Mayweather claims he's going to fight more regularly — including a bout in September — but he hasn't fought twice in a calendar

year since 2007 and must deal with the real possibility of ring rust against Guerrero.

"I feel unbeatable," Mayweather said. "I'm in the sport to go down as the best and I'm not going into a fight thinking I'm beatable. Anything is possible in life, but I feel I can adjust. I feel I can adapt."

Adjusting and adapting may be the key in the fight, which pits Mayweather against a rugged challenger who fights as a southpaw. Guerrero seems intent on putting pressure on Mayweather and making him fight every minute of every round — something that other opponents have for the most part failed to do.

Odds makers have Mayweather a 6-1 favorite against a fighter who moved up to welterweight just two fights ago and got the fight mainly on his impressive win in his last outing against Andre Berto. Guerrero — who won two world titles at 126 pounds and another at 130 — will get \$3 million for the fight, but understands the rewards for being the first one to beat Mayweather would be a lot more.

"A lot of people underestimate how strong I am in the ring. People underestimate my strength and it really is a big downfall for them," Guerrero said. "You have a strong body, you have fast hands, you have heavy hands and you have the skill and talent to put things together and be able to change up things in the ring. It really is a game changer for a fighter."

Both fighters will have their fathers in the corner, with Mayweather bringing back his after a long absence. □

Personal Health: An Exam With Poor Results

JANE E. BRODY

© 2013 New York Times

In America, when a woman goes to her gynecologist, she is typically given a pelvic exam whether or not she has symptoms or concerns that might warrant one. That's one reason an estimated 63.4 million pelvic exams are done annually in this country.

Now a growing number of experts are asking whether it's necessary to do so many.

"This is not the case in other countries that get better results without doing routine pelvic exams," Dr. Carolyn L. Westhoff, a gynecologist at Columbia University Medical Center, said in an interview. "I'm an American gynecologist, and that's how we were trained. It took many years for me to ask, 'Why are we doing this?'"

For most women, Pap smears are now recommended just once every three to five years – and for some, not at all. No doubt many women would be delighted to skip the routine pelvic exam, too, which many find uncomfortable and embarrassing. A woman undergoing the exam is bare below the waist. She lies on the examining table on her back with her knees bent and legs spread apart, her feet in stirrups and her buttocks near the end of the table. The doctor inserts a lubricated, gloved finger into her vagina and, with the other hand, presses down on her abdomen to check the shape and size of her uterus and ovaries.

It's called a bimanual exam. Westhoff is among an increasing number of experts challenging the value of this practice, which is done as a matter of course when women come in for routine gynecological checkups or Pap smears.

These experts say that for women who are apparently healthy, a routine bimanual exam is not supported by medical evidence, increases the costs of medi-

cal care and discourages some women, especially adolescents, from seeing doctors.

Moreover, the exam sometimes reveals benign conditions that lead to follow-up procedures, including surgery, that do not improve health but instead cause anxiety, lost time from work, potential complications and unnecessary costs.

"In my experience as a practicing gynecologist, I frequently have had to take patients into the operating room because I found an enlargement

atic women."

She and others say that the justifications gynecologists typically offer for doing the pelvic exam – screening for a sexually transmitted infection and cervical cancer, detecting ovarian cancer early, and evaluating a woman for hormonal contraception – either do not require a bimanual exam or are not supported by research.

In a multicenter trial supported by the National Cancer Institute, for instance, no cancers of the ovaries were detected by a pelvic examination



Some experts say that pelvic exams, which are conducted routinely on even apparently healthy women visiting their gynecologist, can cause more problems than they unearth.

(Yvetta Fedorova/The New York Times)

during a bimanual pelvic exam," said Dr. George F. Sawaya, a professor of obstetrics at the University of California, San Francisco, who has written about overuse of the procedure. "I then follow up with a sonogram which shows a mass, but I can't tell what the mass is without surgical exploration. Yet nearly always it's benign."

Westhoff and colleagues wrote in January 2011 in The Journal of Women's Health that "frequent routine bimanual examinations may partly explain why U.S. rates of ovarian cystectomy and hysterectomy are more than twice as high as rates in European countries, where the use of the pelvic examination is limited to symptom-

alone.

The test sometimes did produce suspicious findings that resulted in further procedures.

Despite its ineffectiveness, Analia Stormo, a researcher at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and colleagues recently found that "almost 70 percent of obstetrician-gynecologists reported believing that a pelvic examination is an effective means of screening for ovarian cancer."

To screen for sexually transmitted chlamydia and gonorrhea, tests done on a urine sample or vaginal swab obtained by the patient "have numerous advantages" over the pelvic exam, Stormo and colleagues also noted. □

Suicide rate rises sharply among U.S. middle-aged

MIKE STOBBE

AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The suicide rate among middle-aged Americans climbed a startling 28 percent in a decade, a period that included the recession and the mortgage crisis, the government reported Thursday.

The trend was most pronounced among white men and women in that age group. Their suicide rate jumped 40 percent between 1999 and 2010. But the rates in younger and older people held steady. And there was little change among middle-aged blacks, Hispanics and most other racial and ethnic groups.

Why did so many middle-aged whites — that is, those who are 35 to 64 years old — take their own lives? One theory suggests the recession caused more emotional trauma in whites, who tend not to have the same kind of church support and extended families that blacks and Hispanics do. The economy was in recession from the end of 2007 until mid-2009. Even well afterward, polls showed most Americans remained worried about weak hiring, a depressed housing market and other problems.

Pat Smith, violence-prevention program coordinator for the Michigan Department of Community Health, said the recession — which hit manufacturing-heavy states particularly hard — may have pushed already-troubled people over the brink. Being unable to find a job or settling for one with lower pay or prestige could add "that final weight to a whole chain of events," she said.

Another theory notes that white baby boomers have always had higher rates of depression and suicide, and that has held true as they've hit middle age. During the 1999-2010 period, suicide went from the eighth leading cause of death among middle-

aged Americans to the fourth, behind cancer, heart disease and accidents.

"Some of us think we're facing an upsurge as this generation moves into later life," said Dr. Eric Caine, a suicide researcher at the University of Rochester.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released the report, which was based on death certificates. People ages 35 to 64 account for about 57 percent of suicides.

The report contained surprising information about how middle-aged people kill themselves: During the period studied, hangings overtook drug overdoses in that age group, becoming the No. 2 manner of suicide. But guns remained far in the lead and were the instrument of death in nearly half of all suicides among the middle-aged in 2010.

The CDC does not collect gun ownership statistics and did not attempt to correlate suicide rates with gun ownership.

For the entire U.S. population, there were 38,350 suicides in 2010, making it the nation's 10th leading cause of death, the CDC said. The overall national suicide rate climbed from 12 suicides per 100,000 people in 1999 to 14 per 100,000 in 2010. That was a 15 percent increase.

For the middle-aged, the rate jumped from about 14 per 100,000 to nearly 18 — a 28 percent increase. Among whites in that age group, it spiked from about 16 to 22. Suicide prevention efforts have tended to concentrate on teenagers and the elderly, but research over the past several years has begun to focus on the middle-aged. The new CDC report is being called the first to show how the trend is playing out nationally and to look in depth at the racial and geographic breakdown.

The suicide rate registered a statistically significant increase in 39 out of 50 states. □

App lets amputees program their own bionic hands

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Double-amputee Jason Koger used to fly to visit a clinician when he wanted to adjust the grips on his bionic hands. Now, he's got an app instead.

Koger this week demonstrated the i-limb ultra revolution, a prosthetic developed by the British firm Touch Bionics. Using a stylus and an iPhone, Koger can choose any of 24 grip patterns that best suit his needs. It's the latest evolution in equipment for Koger, who lost his hands in an all-terrain vehicle accident in 2008. "Five years ago, I couldn't pull my pants up by myself," said Koger, 34. "Today, I go hunting and do some of the things that I probably never imagined I could have done five years ago." The technology indicates how rapidly the field of prosthetics is changing, benefiting patients from injured military members to victims of last month's Boston Marathon bombing. Practitioners say increased government research in

the wake of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is driving some of the advances.

Koger received an electric shock after running into a downed power line. He went into a coma and had no idea until he woke up three days later that doctors had amputated both his limbs at mid-forearm. Since then, he's used a variety of prostheses, which he considers like tools — different extensions for different tasks. Electric hooks have allowed him to pursue his passion for hunting. Myoelectric hands, which react to electrical impulses generated by his remaining arm muscles, offer more precise movements. The previous version of Koger's myoelectric device required programming by a prosthetist, meaning Koger had to fly to Advanced Arm Dynamics in Dallas. The prosthetist would work with Koger to pick a few grip patterns — such as pinching, pointing or shaking hands — to program into the i-limb.

Yet sometimes Koger



Double amputee Jason Koger, 34, of Owensboro, Ky., demonstrates his i-limb ultra revolution hands during an interview with the Associated Press, Thursday, May 2, 2013, in Philadelphia. Koger, a husband and father of three who lost his limbs in an accident, can now activate with an iPhone app 24 different grip patterns for his new hands. Associated Press

would get home and realize they weren't the ones he needed. Now, the latest i-limb comes with an iPhone or iPad app that allows Koger to reprogram his hand with the touch of a stylus. On Thursday, he demonstrated by gripping an orange, a baseball and a can of soda.

The i-limb allows fingers and thumbs move independently to conform around certain objects, said Ryan Spill, a prosthe-

tist for Advanced Arm Dynamics who is working with Koger. The thumb is also motorized, not passive, as in previous prostheses.

The Boston Marathon bombings, which wounded more than 260 people, including many with serious leg injuries, have shined a light on the advances in prostheses. But experts note that technology for upper extremity bionics, which involve fine motor skills, is much different

from what's needed for lower extremities, which focus on weight distribution and gait. There have also been huge advances in computerized knees and feet, said Joe Reda, assistant director of orthotic and prosthetic services at the Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation in New Jersey. "The changes are happening rather rapidly now, and I think it's because of our wars overseas," said Reda. "The government is trying to put more money into research and development." The i-limb ultra revolution costs about \$100,000, though some insurance might cover it. Koger received his free in exchange for testing them and providing feedback. He met Friday with other amputees interested in the new technology.

Mark Dowling, 50, lost his arm to cancer several months ago. He said he cried while watching Koger demonstrate how the hand worked.

"I'm very touched with his story," Dowling said. □

B&N to add Google Play app store to its Nook HD

MAE ANDERSON

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Barnes & Noble is teaming up with Google to vastly increase the number of apps available on its Nook HD tablets. The bookstore chain says it will add Google's Play app store to its 7-inch (177.8-millimeter) Nook HD and 9-inch HD+ products in the U.S. and U.K. via a software update Friday. The move expands the number of apps available from the roughly 10,000 the Nook already offered in its own store — such as Angry Birds and Netflix — to 700,000-plus apps and games offered on Google Play. And it comes after a weak holiday sales season for the Nook, which is struggling to gain market share in the rapidly expanding tablet market.

CEO William Lynch said research and sales dur-

ing the holidays show that consumer preference is shifting toward all-purpose tablets rather than simple e-readers.

"We saw coming off holiday the market moved to multifunction tablets," he said. "Consumer research showed us the breadth of applications available is really critical."

Lynch said the company had been in discussions with Google "on and off" for the past several years.

"This addresses the one perceived gap that we had with other tablets virtually overnight," he said. Terms of the deal were undisclosed.

The update is automatic and will occur over-the-air to all devices connected to Wi-Fi. It will also include other Google Inc. services like the Chrome browser, Gmail, YouTube and Google Maps. Google Play

Music includes millions of songs as well.

The prices and styles of the Nooks that Barnes & Noble offers are not changing. The 7-inch Nook HD starts at \$199 and the 9-inch Nook HD+ tablet starts at \$269. Barnes & Noble also sells non-tablet e-book readers, the Nook Simple Touch and Nook Simple Touch with GlowLight, which will not offer Google Play.

Barnes & Noble Inc., based in New York, has invested heavily in its Nook e-book readers and a digital library as more readers shift to electronic books and competition has grown from discount stores and online rivals.

The retailer launched high-definition versions of its Nook HD and Nook HD+ tablets in September in an effort to better compete against Amazon.com's Kindle Fire as well as other



In this Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2013, photo, nook tablets are on display at a Barnes and Noble bookstore in Los Angeles. Physical books may have a longer shelf life than expected. Associated Press

tablets like the iPad, iPad Mini and Google's own Nexus 7.

The company's Nook unit has attracted investors — Microsoft Corp. owns 16.8 percent, while U.K. publisher and education company Pearson PLC has a 5 percent stake. But aside from investor funding, it has not been profitable. In its most recent quarter, which included the holiday season, Nook revenue fell 26 percent to \$316 million. Barnes & Noble recorded

\$21 million in returns due to weak demand during the holiday season, and \$15 million in allowances for promotions. Meanwhile market share has slid. Barnes & Noble had a 1.9 percent share of the worldwide tablet market in the fourth quarter, making it the No. 5 Tablet player behind Apple, Samsung, Amazon and Asus, according to data from IDC. But by the first quarter it had slipped out of the top 5, replaced by Microsoft. □

US stocks surge to new record highs

BERNARD CONDON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks on Wall Street surged to all-time highs Friday when

first time. The Dow Jones industrial average briefly rose above 15,000, a milestone. "There's euphoria today,"

are making record profits, but much of that lately has come from cutting costs, not boosting sales. More jobs, and more consumer

jobs report, too. The main indexes in France, Germany, Spain and Brazil rose 1 percent or better.

The S&P 500 is up 13 percent from the start of the year. The Dow is up 14 percent.

Friday's gains were broad. Eight of the 10 industry groups in the S&P 500 index rose. Nearly three stocks rose for every one that fell on the NYSE.

Companies that stand to benefit most from an upturn in the economy led the stock market up. Those that make basic materials and produce oil and gas rose the most in the S&P 500 index. U.S. Steel, General Electric and Dow Chemical were among the winners. Utilities, consumer-staple companies and other safe-play stocks trailed the market as investors took on more risk.

Small-company stocks are more risky than bigger companies but can offer investors greater returns. On Friday, they outpaced the broader market. The Russell 2000 jumped 14.57 points, or 1.6 percent, to 954.42, a new all-time high. The Nasdaq composite index rose 38.01 points to 3,378.63, an increase of 1.1 percent.

"We're breaking through psychological barriers and that will continue to bring investors off the sidelines,"

said Darrell Cronk, regional chief investment officer for Wells Fargo Private Bank. He called the jobs news "wonderful."

Cronk, like many others on Wall Street, has been watching individual investors for signs they may finally have shed their fear of stocks.

A surge in buying from them would help push stocks higher. But individuals late last month pulled more money out of stock funds than they put in, a reversal from the trend earlier this year, according to the Investment Company Institute.

They've had reasons to pull back lately. First came news of falling retail sales in March, then a series of weak manufacturing reports and signs of an economic slowdown in China. And first-quarter earnings have been mixed. Though they've come in higher than expected, but many companies have reported little or no revenue growth, which has spooked investors. Investors have also been concerned that higher Social Security payroll taxes and sweeping government spending cuts that took effect earlier this year will slow U.S. economic growth and pinch corporate profits.

The new jobs numbers suggested the private sector might be strong enough to overcome those obstacles. In its report, the government revised its previous estimate of job gains up to 332,000 in February and 138,000 in March. The economy has created an average of 208,000 jobs a month from November through April — above the 138,000 added in the previous six months.

"Jobs are key," said Randall Warren, chief investment officer of Warren Financial Service. "Everyone is worried about things like fiscal policy, the government spending money it doesn't have. If you want to turn that situation around, you have to get people off their couches."



A mariachi band plays on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, part Constellation Brands Cinco de Mayo promotion, before the closing bell, Friday, May 3, 2013. The stock market surged, traders donned party hats, and the wave of buying drove three indexes through major milestones. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

a surprisingly good jobs report finally gave investors a clear sign of U.S. economic strength after weeks of conflicting signals. The unemployment rate fell to the lowest level in four years, 7.5 percent.

The market jumped from the opening, traders put on party hats and a wave of buying helped the Standard and Poor's 500 index close above 1,600 for the

said Stephen Carl, the head equity trader at The Williams Capital Group. "That's what you'd have to call it."

On the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, brokers sported caps emblazoned with "Dow 15,000." Investors are hoping it's more than just a one-day celebration. Jobs are key to keeping stocks climbing. Big U.S. companies

spending, would help.

The April jobs report was a good start. U.S. employers added 165,000 new workers last month and many more in February and March than previously estimated.

The Dow rose 142.38 points to close at 14,973.96, up 1 percent. The S&P 500 index surged 16.83 points, or 1 percent, to 1,614.42.

Stock overseas rose on U.S.

Berkshire Hathaway's earnings jump 51%

JOSH FUNK
AP Business Writer

OMAHA, Nebraska (AP) — Berkshire Hathaway's first-quarter profit jumped 51 percent as its insurance companies performed well and the value of its investments soared.

Billionaire Warren Buffett's firm said Friday it earned \$4.89 billion, or \$2,977 per Class A share. That's up from last year's \$3.25 billion net income, or \$1,966 per Class A share. The U.S.-based conglomerate said its revenue grew 15 percent to \$43.87 billion over last year's \$38.15 billion.

The earnings report was released as thousands of Berkshire shareholders were gathering for Saturday's annual meeting.

Berkshire owns roughly 80 subsidiaries, including clothing, furniture and jewelry firms. Its insurance and utility businesses typically account for more than half of the company's net income. It also has major investments in such companies as Coca-Cola Co. and Wells Fargo & Co. Berkshire's insurance companies, which include Geico and General Reinsurance, generated \$901 million

in underwriting profit because there were no major losses in the quarter. That's far better than last year's \$54 million.

The value of Berkshire's investments and derivatives soared to \$1.1 billion from \$580 million. Those mostly paper gains included an estimated \$784 million gain this year on derivative contracts Berkshire holds. Last year, those derivatives, which are mostly tied to the value of certain stock market indexes, contributed \$650 million. The true value of the derivatives won't be clear for at least

several years because they won't mature until then. But Berkshire must estimate their value every time the company reports earnings. Buffett has told investors he believes the contracts will ultimately be profitable. Berkshire's operating earnings were \$3.78 billion in the first quarter, up 42 percent from last year's \$2.67 billion. Buffett has said Berkshire's operating earnings are a better measure of how the company is performing in any given period, because those figures exclude the value of derivatives and investment gains or losses. □

Survey: US service firms grew more slowly in April

MARCY GORDON
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A survey of U.S. service firms says the sector expanded at a slower pace in April than March, as companies reported less business activity and couldn't raise their prices.

The Institute for Supply Management said Friday that its index of non-manufacturing activity fell to 53.1 in April from 54.4 in March. Any reading above 50 indicates expansion.

The report measures growth in industries that cover 90 percent of the work force, including retail, construction, health care and financial services.

The decline in the overall index suggests some service companies may be starting to see less consumer demand, in part because of higher Social Security taxes. April's weakness was largely because of a steep drop in a measure of prices.

That index dropped from 55.9 in March to 51.2 last month.

Nearly 70 percent of firms surveyed said they did not change their prices last month, while 10 percent lowered them.

A measure of business activity also declined.

Still, a gauge of new orders was mostly unchanged and businesses stepped up restocking, typically a sign

that they expect consumer spending to pick up.

Growth in the service industry depends largely on consumers, whose spending drives roughly 70 percent of economic activity.

Americans boosted their spending from January through March at the fastest pace in more than two years, despite the increase in Social Security taxes that kicked in on Jan. 1.

But other indicators suggest the tax increase is starting to catch up with consumers. Retail spending fell in March by the most in nine months.

The survey's index of hiring also fell, indicating fewer jobs were added last

month.

But the survey conflicted with a separate government report Friday that said service-sector hiring improved in April.

The Labor Department said service firms added 185,000 jobs last month, up from 139,000 in March. That helped lower the unemployment rate to a four-year low of 7.5 percent.

The tax increase has lowered incomes for a typical household earning \$50,000 by about \$1,000 this year. A household with two highly paid workers has up to \$4,500 less.

Most economists predict the tax increase and steep government spending

cuts that began on March 1 could slow economic growth in the April-June quarter.

Consumers are more optimistic that the job market is healing and will deliver higher pay later this year, according to a survey of April consumer confidence released Tuesday.

And other trends may offset some of the impact of the taxes this year.

Consumers have cut their debts. Rising home values and stock prices have increased household wealth. And average gas prices nationwide have dropped 27 cents from their peak this year to \$3.52 a gallon, according to AAA. □

BNP Paribas sees Q1 earnings tumble 45%

PARIS (AP) — French bank BNP Paribas said Friday its earnings slumped 45 percent in the first quarter amid a steep drop in corporate and investment banking as Europe's economic stagnation continued to bite.

The bank, France's largest by assets, said it made a net profit of 1.58 billion euros (\$2.1 billion) in the January-March quarter, down from 2.87 billion euros a year earlier.

In a statement the bank said overall revenue rose 1.7 percent to 10.1 billion euros thanks to its as-

set management division, which benefited from rising global financial markets. Corporate and investment banking,

however, saw earnings tumble about 30 percent to 806 million euros on a 21 percent drop in revenue that the bank blamed on weak markets and "occasional renewed tensions" in Europe's financial crisis. "In a lackluster economic environment in Europe, BNP Paribas Group generated 1.6 billion euros in net income this quarter, thanks in particular to good con-



French bank BNP Paribas said Friday its earnings slumped 45% in the first quarter amid a steep drop in corporate and investment banking as Europe's economic stagnation continued to bite.
(Handout Photo)

trol of costs and risks," CEO Jean-Laurent Bonnafé said in a statement.

Earlier this year, the bank announced a cost-cutting drive aimed at squeezing savings of 2 billion euros annually from 2015. About half of the savings are to come from its retail banking division, and another third from investment banking.

The bank booked 155 million euros in the first quarter in costs linked to this plan, and said many other projects are in the process of being launched. □

RBS says gov't stake could be sold within year

DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Royal Bank of Scotland predicted Friday that the government should be able to start selling its stake within a year, as it reported a first-quarter profit of 393 million pounds (\$611 million), up from a loss of 1.5 billion a year earlier. CEO Stephen Hester said cleanup of the troubled bank, which is 81 percent owned by the British taxpayer after it was rescued by the government in 2008, would be largely complete by the middle of 2014. That means RBS could be privatized and look "much more like a normal bank," it said.

The timing of the sale, however, remains up to the government.

"When it comes we will be ready," Hester told analysts in a morning conference call. "But it is a decision for others."

The question of when the shares are sold is important because it will determine whether taxpayers get their money back — or take a loss on their investment in the bank.

Hester told analysts it was unlikely the government would sell its entire stake in a single transaction — particularly as the government also has a stake in another bank, Lloyds, that also

needs to be sold. Hester said the taxpayer might get a return over time on average over multiple transactions.

But he said he thought that privatization would send an important message to the British people.

"Privatization would be a symbol of recovery for the UK," he said.

Britain's next general election is set for 2015, so a sale shortly before then would send a powerful signal that the economy had improved. Hester did not address timing except to say that it was in the end a political decision which the bank "won't get to vote on

one way or another."

"Obviously, it's not my job to decide how public money is spent. I think most people believe enough public money has been spent on RBS and are looking forward to getting it back," he said.

Though it was the bank's first quarterly profit since 2011, analysts say operating profit was below expectations and shares were down 5.8 percent at 290, well off the 410 pence it would take for the government's investment to break even. Some analysts suggest the break-even point is really higher, at around 505 pence, because of ex-

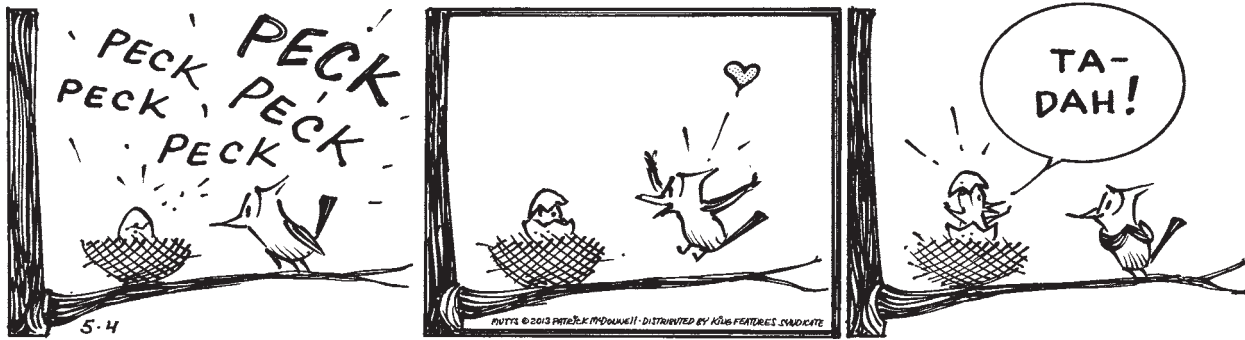
tra costs.

Analysts were not impressed. Richard Hunter, head of equities at Hargreaves Lansdown Stockbrokers, said a possible sale of the government stake adds to other concerns, such as regulatory intervention, that are weighing on the share price.

"The market consensus has recently improved marginally from a sell to a weak hold, but investor patience seems to be wearing thin and the general view could now come under renewed pressure," he said in a statement.

Ian Gordon of Investec put it more plainly. □

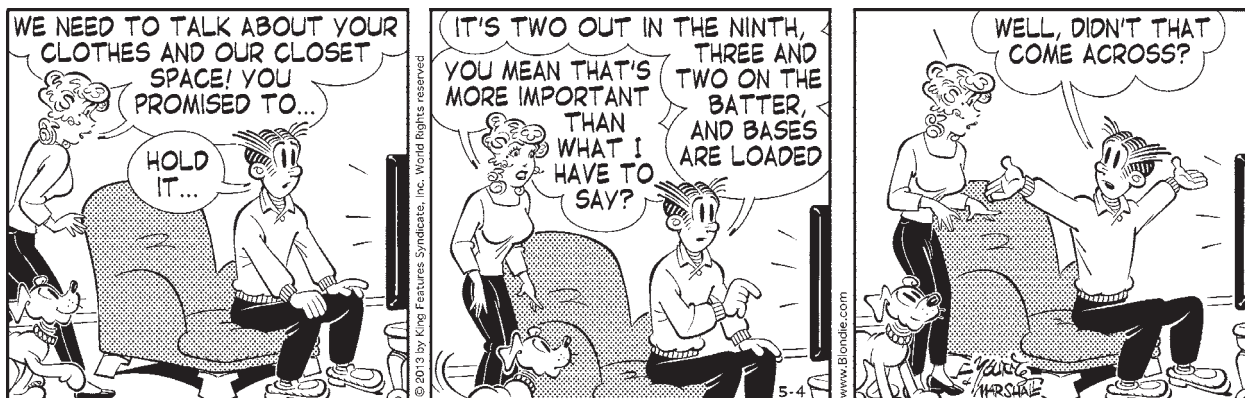
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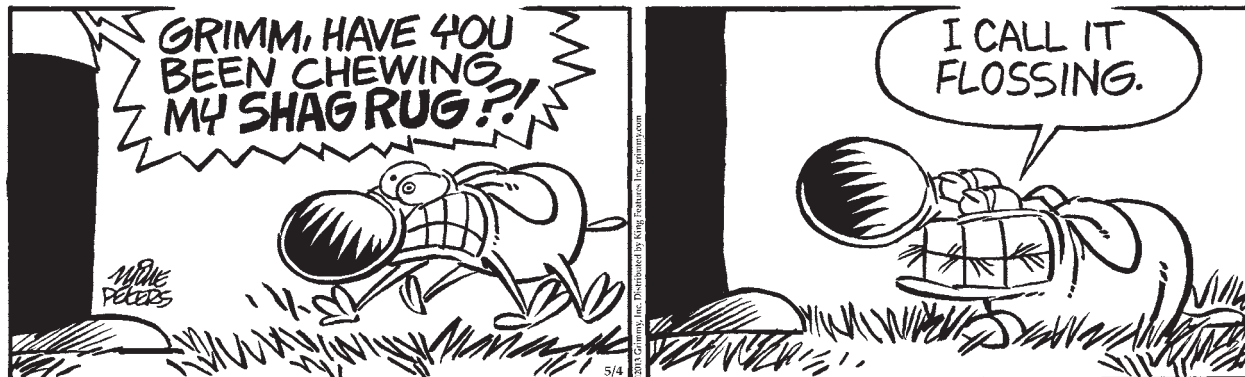
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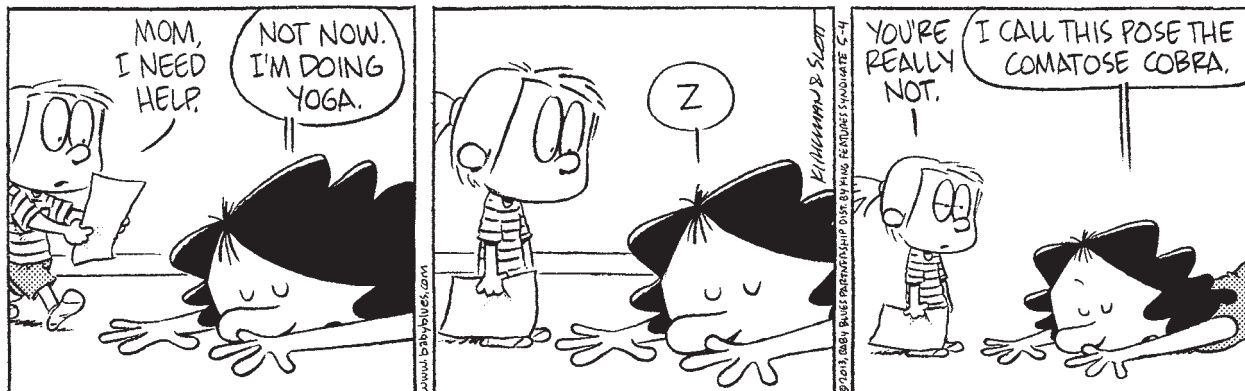
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

5				9				2
	6		1	8	3		7	
		8		6		1		
	5	7				9	3	
		2		4		5		
	1		6	2	9		4	
8				5				3

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

5/04

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

1	8	2	6	7	3	4	9	5
9	7	5	2	1	4	8	3	6
3	6	4	5	8	9	7	2	1
6	9	1	8	3	2	5	4	7
4	5	8	7	9	6	2	1	3
2	3	7	4	5	1	9	6	8
7	4	9	3	6	5	1	8	2
5	2	3	1	4	8	6	7	9
8	1	6	9	2	7	3	5	4

ACROSS

- Groovy, to today's kids
- Under a __; mesmerized
- Street sign in an octagon
- Airport in Paris
- One to whom a check is written
- Akron's state
- Relinquish
- Neighbors of Californians
- Pompous fool
- Annoys
- Identical
- Thick drinks
- Smallest bill
- Noises from an empty stomach
- "__ with care"; words on a fragile package
- Wraparound garments
- Pirate's plunder
- Goof
- Gung ho
- Bundles of hay
- Source of woe
- Tillis or Tormé
- Naomi and Wynonna
- Capital of Bulgaria
- Partial refund to the buyer
- Nuisance
- Colony insect
- Cheese-topped tortilla chip
- Syrup flavor
- Religious man
- Greek letter
- Great praise; raising on high
- Bridge
- Additionally
- Thickheaded
- __ up; become cheerful again
- In case
- More peculiar
- Fighting force

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21						22			
		23	24						25					
26	27							28			29	30		
31						32	33				34	35		
36						37					38			
39						40					41			
	42	43							44					
									46					
47	48	49						50				51	52	53
54						55	56				57			
58						59					60			
61						62					63			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/4/13

Friday's Puzzle Solved

MET		DIANA		PHIL
OPEN		INGOT		LOSE
MICE		SCOOT		INNS
CHAMPAGNE		GETS		
		TEES		MPH
ORDEAL		APPETITE		
COAST		THETA		SEA
CULT		AREAS		JARS
USE		IDEAL		TEASE
RESERVED		PARCEL		
		LEI		TARS
HULA		SIDESTEPS		
ATOP		ERUPT		YEAH
FANS		RODEO		SOFA
THEE		SNEER		NET

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5/4/13

DOWN

- __-Cola

- Raw minerals
- Cutlass maker
- Caustic soap ingredient
- Athletics
- Green areas for recreation
- Peepees
- Lower limb
- Zodiac sign
- Dirty
- Bangkok native
- Pig's cry
- Sit for an artist
- Child's hired caregiver
- Misfortunes
- Amazed
- Cereal grains
- Tiny weight
- Name for a dog
- Garden tools
- Leaping sap-sucking insect
- Pyle or Els
- Commanded
- Obsolete
- Raise, as kids
- Part of a cigar
- The one and the other
- La Toya's sister
- Hit hard
- Voter's paper
- "The Star-Spangled __"
- Loop in a rope
- Lunch or dinner
- Wheel rod
- Go by
- Obey orders
- Injure
- Like a leaky fountain pen
- Hustle-bustle
- TV's Koppel
- Jacuzzi

Column: Plan B and the failure to communicate

The Boston Globe
Joanna Weiss

The squeamishness? I get it. If you're a parent -- or if you know anything about the judgment skills of teenagers -- it's not easy to imagine a 15-year-old walking into a drugstore and walking out with a powerful birth control drug.

But that's precisely the reason Plan B needs to be available over the counter. Because talking to teens about sex isn't easy, either. It was a complicated week in the history of Plan B. A federal judge ruled the morning-after pill should be available to everyone, regardless of age. But the Obama administration plans to appeal. And last week, the FDA announced what looks like a compromise policy: It will allow over-the-counter Plan B sales to girls 15 and over, as long as they show ID.

So far, no one seems pleased. Public health advocates -- who understand that contraception is always better than unplanned pregnancy -- say the new policy won't help girls in need. How many 15-year-olds do you know, they point out, who walk around with their passports?

Opponents, meanwhile, say a 15-year-old, who can't get her ears pierced in a mall store without her parent's signature, really shouldn't be handling her sex life alone.

"We're telling girls, 'It's OK, you don't need to ask your mother, the pharmacist doesn't have to ask any questions,'" Maureen Vacca, the director of public policy for the Massachusetts Family Institute, told me last week.

On many levels, she's right,

and she represents a common idea behind the opposition to Plan B for teens. It's not simply a knee-jerk effort to control girls' bodies. It's more of a well-meaning wish for girls' lives, a realization that they'd be better off if they could navigate the treacherous territory of sex with help from caring adults.

But not every teenager has that kind of support -- particularly kids from at-risk homes, who face economic pressure and cultural barriers.

"The reality is we have young people who are not in families where that kind of connection exists," said Patricia Quinn, executive director of the Massachusetts Alliance on Teen Pregnancy. "That just seems like a really unfair bargain to say, 'Because the adults have failed, we are going to say this has to happen to you.'"

And affluent families can't count on perfect communication, either. Tara Cousineau, a clinical psychologist from Milton who runs workshops for mothers and teen girls, had a conversation last week about Plan B with three 15-year-old girls while on their way to a suburban soccer game. She asked them if they talked to their mothers about sex. They didn't. Not really. Not even her own daughter.

Maybe, Cousineau later told me by e-mail, that's because girls from more affluent families face different sorts of pressures. They want their relationships with their mothers to be "good," "safe," drama-free. They'd rather lie or sneak around than risk being scolded or punished.

"Of course, many moms

would be shocked and disappointed to find out their girls think or behave this way," Cousineau told me. "How many moms say, 'My daughter tells me everything'? Maybe everything but."

This isn't an indictment of parents. It's a description of communications boundaries. Parents are squeamish. They're competing with religion and pop culture. Their own parents weren't always great models for talking about sex.

And they might, indeed, be shocked to know what their kids are doing. According to data collected in 2011 in the state's Youth Risk Behavior Survey, about 25 percent of Massachusetts teenagers report having had sex before age 15. In Boston, that number is closer to 39 percent. And the city is battling a chlamydia epidemic. □

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Expert: Rhino population wiped out in Mozambique

MICHELLE FAUL

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) —

Mozambique's rhinoceros population was wiped out more than a century ago by big game hunters. Re-constituted several years ago, the beasts again are on the brink of vanishing from the country by poachers seeking their horns for sale in Asia.

A leading expert told The Associated Press that the last rhino in the southern African nation has been killed. The warden of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park — the only place where the horned behemoths lived in Mozambique — also says poachers have wiped out the rhinos. Mozambique's conservation director believes a few may remain.

Elephants also could vanish in Mozambique soon, the warden of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park, Antonio Abacar, told AP. He said game rangers have been aiding poachers, and 30 of the park's 100 rangers will appear in court soon. "We caught some of them red-handed while directing poachers to a rhino area," Abacar said. A game ranger arrested for helping poachers in



In this undated photo supplied by International Fund For Animal Welfare (IFAW), orphaned black rhinos square up after their release into a holding boma at Addo National Park, 50 miles north-east of Port Elizabeth, South Africa after each was abandoned at birth. Associated Press

Mozambique's northern Niassa Game Reserve said on Mozambican Television TVM last week that he was paid 2,500 meticaïs (about \$80) to direct poachers to areas with elephants and rhinos. Game rangers are paid between 2,000 and 3,000 meticaïs (\$64 to \$96) a month.

While guilty rangers will lose their jobs, the courts serve as little deterrent to the poachers: killing wildlife and trading in illegal rhino horn and elephant

tusks are only misdemeanors in Mozambique. "Their legal system is far from adequate and an individual found guilty is given a slap on the wrist and then they say 'OK. Give me my horn back,'" said Michael H. Knight, chairman of the African Rhino Specialist Group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Species Survival Commission. A meeting of the group in February reported there might, possibly, be one white rhino left in Mozambique and no black rhinos at all, Knight said. According to Abacar: "We have already announced the extinction of the rhino population in Limpopo National Park."

But Bartolomeu Soto, director of Mozambique's transfrontier conservation unit, told the AP, "We believe we still have rhinos, though we don't know how many." Mozambican news reports have said the last 15 rhinos in the park were slaughtered in the past month, but park officials said those reports were wrong. Soto said the misunderstanding had arisen over Abacar's statement to journalists that he had not seen a rhino in the three months since he was put in charge of the large park. The only official figure available for rhino deaths is that 17 of their carcasses were found in the park

in 2010, Soto said. He said officials believe poaching must be taking place because rhino horn and elephant tusks carried by Asian smugglers are regularly seized at Mozambique's ports, although at least some of the contraband could be from animals killed by Mozambican poachers in neighboring South Africa. This week a person was arrested at the airport of the capital, Maputo, in possession of nine rhino horns, Soto said.

The price of rhino horn has overtaken the price of gold as demand has burgeoned in Asian countries, mainly China and Vietnam, where consumers wrongly believe that the horn — made of the same substance as fingernails — has powerful healing properties. Chinese traditional medicine prescribes it for everything from typhoid, infant convulsions and fever to an antidote for poison and to relieve arthritis and cure possessions by the devil. Syndicates from Vietnam, China, South Korea and Thailand have been identified as being involved in the trafficking. Knight said rhinos first vanished from Mozambique around the turn of the last century, in the age of the big white hunters, when the animals also nearly disappeared in South Africa, now home to 90 percent of

Africa's estimated 20,000 white rhinos and 4,880 black rhinos.

In 2002, leaders of Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe agreed to establish a transfrontier park straddling their borders and covering some 35,000 square kilometers (13,514 square miles) of the best established wildlife areas in southern Africa with South Africa's famed Kruger National Park and Zimbabwe's Gonarezhou National Park. It is funded by several international wildlife organizations and the European Union.

Soto said some 5,000 animals of various species were moved from South Africa to Mozambique, including the first 12 rhinos to roam in Mozambique in a century. In 2006, South Africa removed some 50 kilometers (30 miles) of fence between Kruger and Limpopo National Park. Soto said the entire 200 kilometers (125 miles) of fence was not removed because Mozambique still is working to resettle some 6,000 people living in the park.

A second phase was to include two other Mozambican parks, allowing the transfrontier park to extend over 100,000 square kilometers (39,000 square miles) that would make it "the world's largest animal kingdom," according to the South African Peace Parks Foundation. Those plans now are in danger, as is the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park. Knight said South African officials are even discussing rebuilding their fence with Mozambique. South African officials say their country has lost 273 rhinos to poachers so far this year. They say most have been killed by Mozambicans who cross into Kruger Park. Poachers killed 668 rhinos in South Africa last year.

The slaughter continues with the number of deaths increasing even though South Africa has declared war on rhino poachers and for two years has deployed soldiers and police in Kruger, a vast park which is the size of Israel. □



In this Friday, Nov. 22, 2012 file photo, Miles Lappeman, owner of Finfoot Lake Reserve near Tantanana, South Africa, walks past the carcasses of a rhino and its calf. Associated Press

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Spider called pivotal in Slayer guitarist death



This 2009 publicity photo provided courtesy of Slayer shows, from left, Dave Lombardo, Kerry King, Jeff Hanneman and Tom Araya. Associated Press

DERRIK J. LANG

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Slayer guitarist Jeff Hanneman thought he was on the mend after a spider bite followed by an infection. He'd been writing songs with the band in anticipation of recording a new album later this year.

But a representative for the band says the bite may have contributed to Hanneman's death more than two years later.

Hanneman died Thursday of liver failure at a Los Angeles hospital with his wife, Kathy, by his side, according to Slayer spokeswoman Heidi Robinson-Fitzgerald. He was 49.

Family members and doctors were not immediately available to discuss the cause of death.

Robinson-Fitzgerald said Hanneman had been slowly recovering from necrotizing fasciitis, a flesh-eating disease that nearly cost him his arm. Such an infection can develop from a minor cut or scratch; Robinson-Fitzgerald blamed the spider bite, for which Hanneman failed to seek immediate treatment.

Infections by flesh-eating bacteria are rare. The affliction can destroy muscle, fat and skin and may require surgery to remove

the diseased tissue to save a patient's life.

Hanneman had several operations to remove dead and dying tissue from his arm, the band said on its website last year.

The government estimates roughly 750 flesh-eating bacteria cases occur each

year, usually caused by a type of strep germ. About one in five people with the most common kind of flesh-eating strep bacteria die. People with weakened immune systems can be more at risk. Flesh-eating bacteria by itself doesn't cause liver failure. But at least one type of strep bacteria can cause streptococcal toxic shock syndrome, which can lead to liver failure. It is unclear whether an autopsy will be scheduled. No funeral arrangements have been made. Hanneman co-founded the thrash metal pioneers in 1982. □



This April 11, 2013 file photo shows actress Lindsay Lohan, a cast member in "Scary Movie V," at the premiere of the film in Los Angeles. Associated Press

Lindsay Lohan enters Betty Ford Center

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Lindsay Lohan has checked into a rehab and will not face a probation violation for leaving another treatment facility after a few minutes, a prosecutor said Friday.

Santa Monica Chief Deputy City Attorney Terry White said he has received confirmation that Lohan has checked in to a rehab facility and he is satisfied with her location. He declined

to say where Lohan is receiving treatment, but a source close to the actress who was not authorized to speak publicly said she has checked in to the Betty Ford Center in Rancho Mirage, California.

The "Liz & Dick" star is required to spend 90 days in rehab as part of a plea deal in a misdemeanor case filed after a June car accident. Lohan has also re-hired longtime attorney Shawn Holley to handle her case. □

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Saxophonist Wayne Shorter wins 3 Jazz Awards

CHARLES J. GANS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Saxophonist-composer Wayne Shorter is a triple winner in the 2013 Jazz Awards presented by the Jazz Journalists Association.

Shorter was a member of Miles Davis' legendary mid-1960s quintet and co-founded the fusion band Weather Report. He won awards for lifetime achievement in jazz, top soprano saxophonist and best small ensemble.

Veteran trumpeter Wadada Leo Smith has been recognized as jazz musician of the year and best trumpeter. Smith's civil rights-themed composition "Ten Freedom Summers" was a 2013 Pulitzer Prize finalist.

The JJA said in an announcement Wednesday



In this Sept. 27, 2011 file photo, saxophonist Wayne Shorter poses at the Los Angeles Philharmonic Opening Night Gala, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

the Album of the Year award went to newcomer Ryan Truesdell, for "Centennial: Newly Discovered Works of Gil Evans." His Gil Evans Project band was chosen best large ensemble. □

Steven Spielberg to direct 'American Sniper'

DERRIK J. LANG

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Steven Spielberg has his sights set on his next project, a movie about former Navy SEAL sniper Chris Kyle, who is considered to be the deadliest sniper in U.S. military history.

A spokeswoman for DreamWorks Studios says Spielberg will direct Bradley Cooper in an adaptation of the best-selling book "American Sniper."

"Spread" screenwriter Jason Hall wrote the script based on the autobiography of Kyle, who was killed this year at a Texas gun range. An Iraq war veteran he was trying to help deal with post-trauma stress is charged with the killings.

At the time of his death, Kyle was working on another



In this Feb. 24, 2013 file photo, director Steven Spielberg arrives at the Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

er book, "American Gun: A History of the U.S. in Ten Firearms."

The film will be a co-production of DreamWorks and Warner Bros. □

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Basketball's Gay Paragon



FRANK BRUNI
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I heard a lot of talk Monday about how "perfect" Jason Collins, the basketball player who just came out, is. Perfect as in straight from central casting. (Or maybe I should say gay from central casting.)

He went to college at Stanford. Roomed there with Joe Kennedy III. Was in the same class as Chelsea Clinton, who tweeted her congratulations to him for the courage she said he was showing.

Seven feet tall, he's strapping even by the brawny standards of the National Basketball Association, and his designated role on the court, as a human roadblock against the most physically imposing opponents, is an aggressive one.

"I'm not proud of it, but I once fouled a player so hard that he had to leave the arena on a stretcher," he writes in the cover article of the new Sports Illustrated, the one in which he becomes the trailblazer so many of us have been waiting for: the first active athlete in any of America's four major professional sports leagues to acknowledge his homosexuality.

He mentions his Christian values. "I take the teachings of Jesus seriously, particularly the ones that touch on tolerance and understanding," he says, getting in a deft dig at religious extremists. And he notes that he hopes to start a family of his own.

But none of these biographical details, none of these remarks, stayed with me the way the first paragraph of the article, whose co-author is the journalist Franz Lidz, did. It's built from three short sentences:

"I'm a 34-year-old NBA center. I'm black. And I'm gay."

The gay part will now define him, in the public eye, more than any other. It will be the prompt for the loudest cheers he basks in and the nastiest jeers he sloughs off.

But in the opening paragraph, it comes after his age and occupation and race, getting no more space, in that one passage and for that brief moment, than other aspects of his identity. It's a detail among many, but not the defining one.

That's the integrated way that things should be, the unremarkable way a person's sexual orientation ought to be lived and perceived. And that's precisely

what Collins and his fellow trailblazers are trying to move us toward: not a constant discussion of the rightful place and treatment of LGBT people in America, but an America in which the discussion is no longer necessary. He's letting us focus on his gayness precisely so we can focus less on others' down the road.

I point that out because I know that some conversation in the days to come, perhaps not public discussion but certainly private grumbling, will include questions about why Collins has to rock the boat, why the news media is paying such lavish heed to him and why gays and lesbians in general make such a fuss of things. I know this from my in-box, where some readers routinely tell me that they'd be less bothered by homosexuals if we'd just please shut up about it.

Many of us want to, and will: when a gay, lesbian or transgendered kid isn't at special risk of being brutalized or committing suicide. When the federal government outlaws discrimination against people based on sexual orientation, which it still hasn't done.

When immigration laws give same-sex couples the same consideration that they do heterosexual ones. When the Defense of Marriage Act crumbles and our committed relationships are not relegated to a lesser status, a diminished dignity.

When a Rutgers coach doesn't determine that the aptly ugly garnish for hurling basketballs at his players' heads is the slur "faggot." When professional football scouts don't try to ascertain that potential recruits are straight.

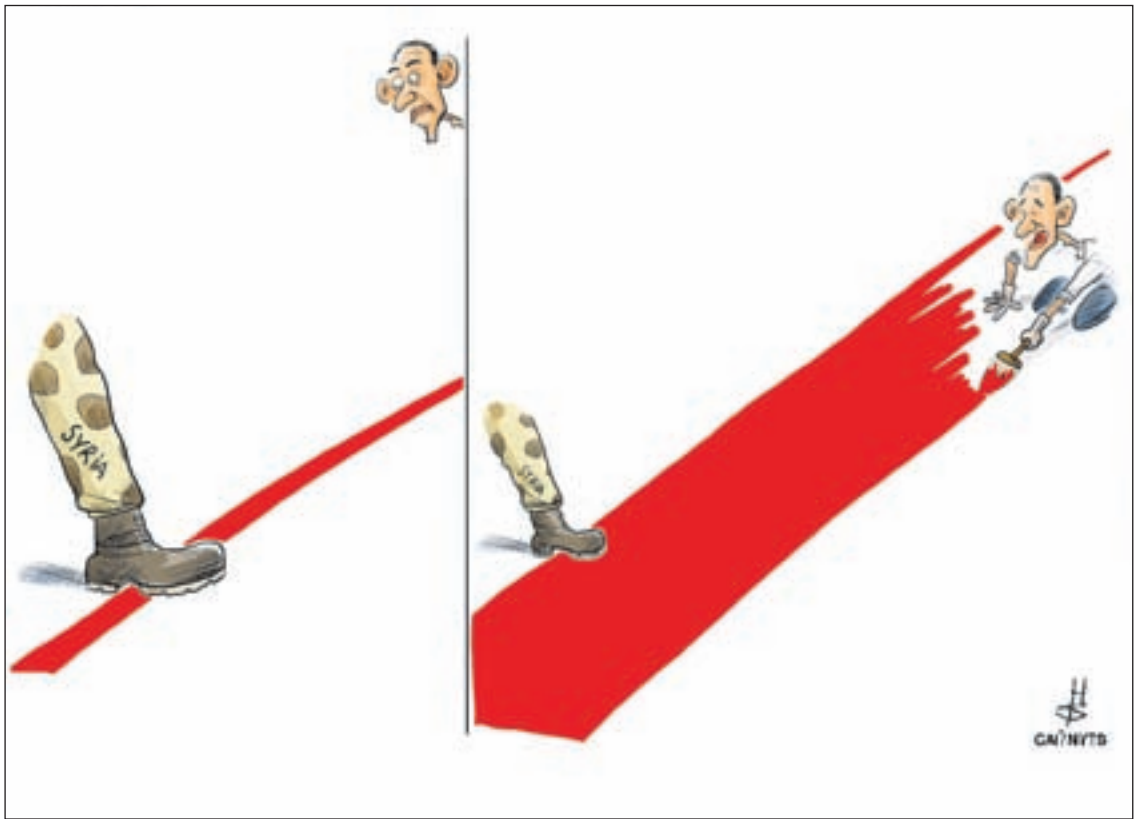
When an athlete like Collins can be honest about himself without he and his co-author having to stress that he's a guy's guy, a godly man, someone who stayed mum about himself before now precisely so he wouldn't disrupt his teams or upset his teammates, someone who's inhabited locker rooms for 12 seasons without incident.

When a gay person's central-casting earnestness and eloquence aren't noted with excitement and relief, because his or her sexual orientation needn't be accompanied by a litany of virtues and accomplishments in order for bigotry to be toppled and a negative reaction to be overcome.

When being gay doesn't warrant a magazine cover or a phone call from the president, any more than being 34 or being black does.

If you read all of Collins' article, and you should, you'll come away realizing that the gay part of him was and is so big only because his world – by which I mean America, and by which I mean pro sports – made it so.

From now on, he says, "I want to be genuine and authentic and truthful." Those are adjectives and attributes also worth dwelling on. □



Starving To Death In Prison



JOE NOCERA
© 2013 New York Times

Fadhel Hussein Saleh Hentif is one of about 100 detainees on a hunger strike in the prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. He was captured in 2001 by Pakistanis after crossing the border from Afghanistan, and, by 2002, he was in the U.S. naval detention facility. He was 20 years old. He has been there since.

Although the United States contends that Hentif left his home in Yemen to become an al-Qaida jihadist, he has always insisted he was simply in the wrong place at the wrong time. A devout Muslim, he says he went to Afghanistan to do charitable work to honor the memory of his father – and that he then left Afghanistan for Pakistan because, as one of his lawyers, Robert Palmer, put it to me recently, "the place was a mess."

Like most Guantanamo detainees, Hentif spent years in solitary confinement. He was subjected to "alternative interrogation techniques" as it was euphemistically called. He watched the Bush administration release more than 500 of the 779 detainees who have passed through Guantanamo. He learned about lawyers arguing in court that the detainees had the legal right to a habeas corpus hearing – that is, to try to prove that they were

not enemy combatants and had been detained illegally.

And, in 2008, the Supreme Court ruled that they did have that right. That same year, a presidential candidate headed toward the White House, Barack Obama, promised to close Guantanamo. That never happened, though President Obama continued the Bush policy of releasing detainees who were not deemed a threat to the United States.

Hentif, in fact, was among those set to be released. In late 2009, he was hours away from flying home to Yemen when a man on a flight to Detroit tried to detonate explosives hidden in his underwear. Because the man had purportedly been trained by an al-Qaida affiliate with bases in Yemen, Congress demanded that the administration stop releasing all Yemen detainees. Obama complied.

And so it went: Hentif had a habeas corpus hearing in 2010, but, by then, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit had made a mockery of the Supreme Court's ruling, establishing evidentiary presumptions that made it impossible for a detainee to win a habeas ruling. (The Supreme Court has declined to hear further cases.) Sure enough, the judge ruled against him in 2012, despite concluding, among other things, that Hentif had never been to an al-Qaida training camp, as the government alleged.

Meanwhile, along with 55 other Yemen detainees, he has been placed on a "cleared" list compiled by a commission composed of national security officials, meaning he could be transferred out of Guantanamo. But Congress, led by Sens. John McCain and Lindsey Graham, both Republicans, quickly passed laws that put impossible conditions on their release. Shamefully, Obama signed those bills.

Is there any wonder that Hentif

– and the other detainees – are on a hunger strike? "It is a total expression of despair and hopelessness," said Brent Rushforth, who also represents him.

It is impossible to know for sure what triggered the hunger strike. Lawyers for the detainees say that the military, after years of loosening the reins – including eliminating solitary confinement for many prisoners – were tightening the screws again for no reason. The military insists that its procedures did not change but that the detainees had begun breaking and covering cameras and refusing demands that they stop doing so.

On April 13, with the hunger strike spreading, the military raided the prison and put the detainees back in solitary. It says it has done so because the detainees are more likely to eat if they are not surrounded by other hunger strikers. If so, it isn't working; there are more detainees refusing food today than before the April 13 raid. To force food into them, the military now shoves a tube down their nose, in an extremely painful procedure it called "enteral feeding."

Are there terrorists at Guantanamo? Yes. The government knows who they are and keeps them away from the other detainees. But the hunger strike is a vivid reminder that Guantanamo remains exactly what it has always been: a stain on our country.

On April 13, Hentif was returning from morning prayers when the raid began. He was pushed up against a fence and shot with rubber bullets at such close range that five of them penetrated the skin. He was handcuffed and taken to the clinic. Now back in solitary confinement, he is worried that one of his wounds is becoming infected. Given their concerns about hunger strikers, the military medical staff hasn't been able to pay him much attention. □

Airport project reflects a changing Silicon Valley

NORIMITSU ONISHI

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SAN JOSE, Calif. – The approval of a new corporate jet center at this city's struggling airport might have been just another losing skirmish in the battle between Silicon Valley billionaires and middle-class neighborhoods worried

the sleep of San Jose homeowners, or the transformation of Palo Alto's last mobile home park into luxury apartments, local developments throughout Silicon Valley highlight how the tech boom is leaving many behind.

Local officials worry about the trend, which experts

turing and midlevel jobs overseas over the years, highly paid workers have increasingly clustered here. Per-capita incomes have been rising even as median incomes have decreased for five years in a row, according to Joint Venture Silicon Valley, a private organization that

Silicon Valley Association of Realtors.

The median prices for March – \$735,000 in Santa Clara and \$925,000 in San Mateo – only hint at the current market's frenzy.

Each property now typically attracts between 10 and 30 offers, eventually selling from 5 to 25 percent above the asking price, said Moise Nahouraii, the owner of Referral Realty in Cupertino, Calif.

Jeff Barnett, a former president of the association and a regional vice president at Alain Pinel Realtors, said 30 to 40 percent of sales were paid in cash.

"Last year, the market came up," Barnett said. "This year, it's on fire; it's just unreal."

In Palo Alto, one of the hottest markets, the long-time owner of the Buena Vista Mobile Home Park has moved to sell the property to a developer planning to build a complex with amenities that include a pool, a spa, a business center, a chef's demonstration kitchen and a pet grooming station. A local ordinance would guarantee the park's 400 residents – more than a quarter of whom are children and 85 percent are Hispanic – some compensation and possible relocation within Palo Alto.

But the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley, a private group that provides free legal services on housing and other issues, is pressing the city to reject the conversion. With the waiting lists for affordable housing getting longer by the day, the group argues, the park's residents will be forced to leave Palo Alto, away from jobs and schools.

Here in San Jose, many residents worry that the new corporate jet center will lead to a spike in overnight flights. Because of the airport's proximity to the downtown area and neighborhoods, aircraft generating more than 89 decibels, like commercial jets, are restricted from flying between 11:30 p.m. and 6:30 a.m.; most cor-

porate jets, though, are exempt from this curfew.

Signature Flight Support, the company that will build the center, said its main tenant would be Blue City Holdings, which manages airplanes belonging to Google's founders, Larry Page and Sergey Brin, and its executive chairman, Eric Schmidt. Maria Sastre, Signature's president, said her tenants would abide by the curfew and use a "wide range of aircraft."

Members of Citizens Against Airport Pollution are proud of their 23-year fight against noise and growth at the San Jose airport. Without them, they believe, the nighttime curfew on certain flights would have vanished long ago.

There were, of course, defeats along the way, including one, in a skirmish over decibels and aircraft weight, to Larry Ellison, the billionaire chief executive of Oracle. But the approval of the corporate jet center last month was a particularly major loss.

Jim Lynch, a 20-year member of Citizens Against Airport Pollution, stood in a parking lot at the airport recently, listening to the familiar sound of jets taking off and landing every few minutes. Though Google's executives are the only future customers named so far, he was worried about all the other tech barons.

"We're sticking up for the little people," he said. "We may get bruised. We may get hit in the arm."

Ed Hodges, co-chairman of Citizens Against Airport Pollution and a retired junior high school science teacher, said that behind the corporate jet center's approval, he saw the ascendancy of the tech elite at the expense of the middle class in Silicon Valley.

He and his wife, a retired nurse, bought their home here 38 years ago. "We have a funny saying in our family: We could not afford to buy our own house today," he said. "This is an example of what's happened to the middle class in Silicon Valley." □



A retail scene on University Avenue in Palo Alto, Calif., a town where housing prices have risen sharply in recent years. A technology boom that once created middle-class jobs and lifted the overall economy in Silicon Valley now fuels a growing gap between the very rich and everyone else.

(Jim Wilson/The New York Times)

about noise pollution. Instead, it is becoming the latest symbol for the rapidly growing gap between the region's haves, with their private jets and untold wealth, and the have-nots, clinging to more modest lives in the dwindling number of communities they can afford.

Google, which is responsible for many of the jets that will use the new \$82 million center, is helping bring badly needed cash to Mineta San Jose International Airport just as the tech industry is creating jobs and wealth in Silicon Valley. But the tech boom is also sharpening income inequality and fueling a housing boom that is squeezing families out of many Silicon Valley communities.

Whether it is the possibility of private jets' disturbing

say will only accelerate, and its effects on the valley's work force and diversity.

"We're very focused on being a progressive and fair community in terms of those issues," Gregory Scharff, the mayor of Palo Alto, said of his city's efforts to provide affordable housing while recognizing the "national treasure" that is Silicon Valley. "We actually innovate and create huge wealth for the United States. If you look at the companies that have just come out of Palo Alto, I would make you a bet that it would be one of the largest GNP's – it could be a country."

In the past, the tech industry created middle-class jobs and lifted the overall economy of Silicon Valley. But as tech companies have shifted manufac-

publishes an annual report on the region.

"We're getting more high earners, and they're skewing the averages completely off," said Russell Hancock, chief executive of Joint Venture.

"We are becoming a community where our teachers, our police, our firefighters, our nurses, they can't live with us. They have to come in from other places. Healthy communities have all these people living together."

Sales figures for single-family homes in Santa Clara and San Mateo, the two main counties in Silicon Valley, show median prices have risen about 30 percent in the past year while the inventory of available homes has fallen by roughly half, according to an analysis of local multiple listing service data by the